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SOVIET REACTION TO ADELMAN CONFIRMATION

White House 'Arm Twisting'

LD152144 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 15 Apr 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov]

[Text] The cowboy methods so characteristic of the present occupant of the White House have done their work. By unceremoniously twisting the arms of the legislators, the American Administration has managed to achieve the Senate's confirmation of Kenneth Adelman in the post of head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. This odious figure is well-known not only in America but abroad. Adelman is an open hawk and opponent of curbing the arms race. The outcome of the vote in the Senate was 57 in favor and 42 against.

You are aware that Adelman's candidacy had to all intents and purposes been blocked in the Senate's Foreign Relations Committee. He shocked the venerable senators by his ignorance of disarmament issues and openly publicized his militarist views. Following the logic of the Reagan administration, Adelman said outright that arms control is just a fiction that is needed to placate public opinion in the United States and Western Europe. When the Senate committee rejected Adelman's candidacy by a majority of votes, the White House resorted to outright attacks on the legislators. The question was then put to the full Senate for discussion. Reagan has not been concealing the fact that it is such an opponent of detente and peace that he wishes to put in charge of a department that formally should be undertaking efforts to limit the arms race This plainly shows the White House's true attitude toward the role of this department. Adelman was presented with a blacklist of his staff members who are to be sacked for not being sufficiently anti-Soviet in their orientation and for intending to strive to achieve progress at the talks with the USSR.

The American press reports that Reagan and Vice President Bush called all vacillating senators, intimidating them with the fact that if Adelman's candidacy were defeated, it allegedly would undermine Washington's position at the Geneva talks. In the end, the Senate confirmed the White House choice by an insignificant majority of votes. According to Senator Pell, the voting itself showed deep concern in Congress over the administration's future course in arms control. Cranston, one of the leaders of the Democratic minority in the Senate, said even more sharply that Adelman's appointment is a betrayal of the hopes of millions of Americans for a halt to the arms race.

Reagan Paralyzing Disarmament Agency

LD151826 Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 15 Apr 83

["Suppressing the Opposition" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

The Reagan administration has totally paralyzed the work of a government agency whose tasks include presenting Congress with assessments of the Pentagon's military programmes and drawing up recommendations for the pursuit of talks on arms limitations and reductions.

The U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA), which in the view of some congressmen and senators must serve as a kind of a "counterbalance" to the Pentagon, and express a "second point of view" on military programmes of the U.S. Defense Department, has been in poor shape in the past two years.

As an NBC television network analyst points out, the personnel of the agency is understaffed by 25 percent, and the appropriations for it are being constantly curtailed, while the agency's library, which took 22 years to be established, has been liquidated.

In the past two years the leading posts in the agency were held by former military who gained Reagan's favours by their militarist utterances. ACDA has been subjected to purges in the style of the late Senator McCarthy.

The latest blow to the agency was the appointment of the post of its director of Kenneth Aldelman, an incompetent man of the "hawks", who says that any talks on arms limitations and reductions are a "swindle".

All agency reports are subjected to the most stringent censorship by the Pentagon. While previoulsy ACDA sometimes made timorous and, as a rule, futile attempts at an objective assessment of some of the Pentagon's militarist proposals ("the deployment of neutron weapons can increase the threat of a nuclear war in Europe"), at present in its conclusions it dutifully describes any measures by U.S. military departments as "enhancing stability".

The hamstring of the activities of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency by the Reagan administration betrays the White House's firm resolve to suppress any opposition to its openly militarist course in Congress, depriving the latter of the possibility to make more or less balanced assessments of the Pentagon's military programmes. This diminishing of the relevance of the agency, called upon, in virtue of its status, to contribute to the attainment of agreements on arms limitations and reductions provides fresh testimony that Reagan and his entourage are after an accelerated arms race rather than seeking progress at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA HITS U.S. ABM DEFENSE PROJECT

PM180837 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Apr 82 First Edition p 3

[Article by Candidate of Military Sciences L. Semeyko: "Counting on Impunity -- On the White House's New Militarist Concept"]

[Text] U.S. President R. Reagan's intention to establish a new gigantic ABM complex, deployed on earth and in outer space, has caused fully justified alarm and indignation all over the world. The unsubstantiated assurances by the White House chief about the allegedly defensive character of his intended new direction in the strategic arms race failed to delude the people who are concerned with the fate of peace and who proceed from an understanding of the very nature of nuclear arms. In actual fact, the point at issue concerns the creation of yet another element which would increase the U.S. potential for a first nuclear strike, and the expansion of acceleration of war preparations on the basis of rash calculations of victory and impunity for the aggressor in a nuclear war.

Reagan's "new initiative" demonstrates the U.S. Administration's extreme irresponsibility on the question of the very existence of mankind, something that was most convincingly shown in the recent appeal by a large group of eminent Soviet scientists to all scientists of the world. The U.S. President's initiative, the appeal emphasizes, is aimed at an obvious destabilization of the existing strategic balance and creates a dangerous illusion which could turn into an even more threatening round of the arms race. Such an act would result in a sharp weakening of international security, including the security of the United States itself.

It is sufficient to examine Reagan's concept not in isolation but in conjunction with other strategic concepts still in force to be convinced of the fact that the ""defensive" character attributed to it immediately becomes offensive and aggressive." It is well known that the calculation on growing strategic offensive might, which continues to be improved in the interests of delivering a first nuclear strike, retains utmost importance in U.S. military doctrine. The Pentagon, however, lacks the confidence that it would succeed in destroying the USSR's entire nuclear missile potential. Under these conditions Reagan's intended ABM system for deployment in outer space, were it to be created, would become a new component of disabling forces designed to "deal" in space with Soviet missiles that may survive the U.S. first strike. As Comrade Yu V. Andropov declared: "The intention to gain the ability to destroy with ABM systems the corresponding strategic means of the other side, in other words to deprive it of the ability to deliver a retaliatory strike, is intended to disarm the Soviet Union in the face of the U.S. nuclear threat."

Reagan's "antimissile solution" is yet another shot in the arm for the strategic arms race, and it is that race which poses the main threat to peace. The creation of ABM forces and facilities will inevitably lead to the acceleration of the strategic offensive arms race owing to the fact that offensive and defensive arms -- and this was at one time jointly acknowledged by the USSR and the United States -- are inseparably interrelated. Even Western experts stress that one side's attempts to create an ABM shield would force the other side to reinforce its means of overcoming it. And the reinforcement of the latter, if we were to follow the logic of the chief of the U.S. Administration, would bring about further improvements in strategic defensive systems. Thus there would be an endless escalation of measures, countermeasures and counter-counter-measures which would be more and more difficult to halt. But even if it could be halted, how much more complicated would it be to implement an agreed reduction of the much higher level of military confrontation! It is well known that the SALT II talks, dealing only with offensive strategic arms, took all of 7 years. How much time would be needed to limit and reduce both components of strategic might -- both offensive and defensive -- bearing in mind the fact that that their size would be that much larger?

Nevertheless, people in Washington now pretend that there is no interrelationship between defense and offense. There is a sudden about-face by the White House from the approach agreed in 1972 between the USSR and the United States. Let us recall that the Treaty of Unlimited Duration on the Limitation of ABM Systems was signed that year. It says that "effective measures to limit ABM systems would be a substantial factor in curbing the race in strategic offensive arms and would lead to a decrease in the risk of the outbreak of war involving nuclear weapons." The protocol to the treaty, signed in 1974, provides for the further limitation of ABM systems: Each side is allowed to have no longer two but just one ABM system. The ABM treaty became an important contribution to the limitation of strategic arms. It banned the development, testing and deployment of space-based ABM systems or components.

Thus the United States is about to break the interrelationship between defensive and offensive strategic means, which it had previously accepted as unbreakable. At that, it is trying to present the development of space-based ABM systems as simply not an offensive step, allegedly not involving an escalation in the arms race. But all this is just too thin.

The attempts to gain superiority in the strategic "defense" field essentially go back 30 years. The first research in the field of space (antisatellite) systems was undertaken by the U.S. Air Force in the mid-fifties, that is, even before the launching of the first Soviet satellite.

Research in the sixties was aimed at developing alternative land-based ABM systems and means to strike at space targets with the help of nuclear and improved types of conventional weapons. In the seventies increasing attention was given to laser weapons which could be deployed in space on tens or even hundreds of combat stations, taken there on shuttle-type spacecraft. It is considered that, provided a number of technical difficulties were overcome, it would be possible to destroy with laser beams not only satellites but also enemy missiles leaving the atmosphere. For the obviously more distant future it is foreseen to use beam weapons utilizing high-energy beams charged with particles of protons, ions and so on.

"We are absolutely obliged to introduce technically superior weapons in all fields," Weinberger has declared. "Obliged" (!) This is how the Pentagon chief tries to justify the U.S. course of building up weapon systems which destabilize the strategic balance, a course of gaining military-strategic superiority by using the new avenues opened by the scientific and technical revolution. This is also the goal of Reagan's "new concept," crowning the prolonged U.S. attempts in the field of developing antiballistic superweapons. While earlier these attempts were taking place without any special advertising, now they have been given the "green light" -- thus calculating on surging ahead in both fields -- in both strategic offensive and strategic defensive potentials -- and breaking the military-strategic equilibrium with the Soviet Union. The latest achievements of science and technology and the development of military-strategic concepts aimed at disabling the USSR with a first strike are now being even more closely linked in a single whole with the U.S. policy of aggression.

The point at issue also concerns the intensification of global military preparations in both the geographical and the military-political sense. In the early and mid-seventies a first disabling strike potential (Minuteman III ICBM's with highly accurate warheads) was being created on the American Continent, and the development of the even more powerful MX systems was being outlined. Plans emerged at the end of the decade to deploy this potential in the Pacific Ocean (Trident missiles), as well as in Europe, to be followed by Asia (highly accurate medium-range missiles). Now it is intended to turn even outer space into an area which ensures, in the final analysis, the delivery of a disabling strike. All this poses a threat to the security not only of the Soviet Union but of other countries. Washington is trying to turn the peoples of Europe and other continents into nuclear hostages.

This is how people in Washington, judging by everything, are calculating for the long term. By completing the planned military program the United States would create a powerful first-strike potential; an ABM defense would follow. And when you have not only "an irresistible sword" but also "a reliable shield," or so the hotheads over the ocean reason, why not take a risk and press the nuclear button?... Such calculations pose a fatal threat to peace.

The term "Star Wars," borrowed from science fiction novels and the movies, occurs more and more often in the vacubulary of U.S. strategists. Reagan's "new concept" makes it obvious that the matter is not restricted to just words and that the United States is preparing for such a war. And this, furthermore, is being done under cover of the wornout and false pretext of a "Soviet military threat" and the USSR's "nuclear superiority" which, so they say, must be countered by the "defense" of America.

And yet, even General J. Vessey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has been forced to admit that there is a balance of forces between the United States and the USSR.

If this is so -- and it really is so -- then, one may ask, why bring out the White House master's directive to start development of a large-scale ABM system to be deployed in space? Yes, this is exactly because the existing balance of power between the USSR and the United States does not at all suit the Washington administration. It is striving to break it so as to gain military superiority and materialize its aggressive plans.

"Reagan's new concept" is evidence not only of the extreme irresponsibility of the U.S. leadership but also of the hopelessness of its strategic plans. "The questions of war and peace cannot be treated so lightly," Yu V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has declared. "All attempts to gain military superiority over the USSR are in vain. The Soviet Union will never allow this, it will never find itself unarmed in the face of any threat." This means that the calculations of U.S. strategists that the United States could avoid retaliation in the event of aggression are destined not to materialize.

STRATEGIC COMMISSION REPORT ON MISSILES ASSAILED

LD161249 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Pavel Kuznetsov commentary]

[Text] A commission on strategic forces led by Lieutenant General Brent Scowcroft has lived up to President Reagan's expectations. Last Monday it issued a report calling for the prompt deployment of a hundred MX missiles, with 10 warheads each, in the silos now housing Titan II and Minuteman III missiles. What is more, the Scowcroft commission proposed the development of a small, mobile missile with one warhead. There is no code name for it yet. For some time this (? 15 ton) missile has been referred to in the U.S. media as the "Midget."

The commission's report is a hallelujah to the arms race. New submarines, yes. New missiles for them, yes. New bombers, loaded with cruise missiles, yes. An antimissile defense system in space, yes. Arms control and reduction, well, the commission says yes to it too. How does the vast military program square with arms control? I do not know. Ask President Reagan. It is his idea of building up arms and taking about arms control. But, it is not the report in general that I would like to talk about. It is the midget missile for the nineties.

For years, American propaganda experts used on and the same trick on both the American and West European public to frighten them with a Soviet threat. They manipulated the size of some American and Soviet missiles to prove that the Soviet Union was a threat because its missiles are larger. The average American always asks us: Why do you Soviets build missiles that are more huge than curs? Are not you a threat then? That is what I call brainwashing.

If huge Soviet missiles present such a threat to the U.S., why did the Scowcroft commission propose to build a very small missile, a pygmy in fact, to succeed the Titan, the Minuteman, and even the 100-ton MX? Why not propose a mammoth missile for the nineties? First of all, it is not the size of a missile that matters, but the wallop that it packs. Secondly, the "Midget" will be highly mobile, and can be deployed in more than one mode. The Pentagon believes that the "Midget" would become invulnerable to an attack. So, it is invulnerability that they seek. But who needs invulnerability for a weapon system if nuclear war is going to destroy mankind? Invulnerable weapon systems are needed by those who believe in winning a nuclear war, and prepare for it.

Invulnerable American weapons and invulnerable American territory -- the rest can go to hell. Ten years ago the U.S. made a bad mistake by deploying multiple warheads in the hope of being ahead of us. The temptation of being ahead was too great to resist. Today, the Scowcrofts of America beat their breast about our catching up, and say: Let us go back to a single warhead. OK, the idea is not bad. But, the trick is that these people want single warheads only on land-based missiles, where the Soviet Union has an advantage. These same people do not want single warheads on submarine launched missiles, where the U.S. has a lead.

The only way to become truly invulnerable to an attack is to abolish nuclear arms. There is no such weapon, or a weapon system which the Soviet Union is not willing to reduce or ban, on a reciprocal basis. This is known to the United States. The Scowcroft commission has lived up to the President's expectations. Its report is 99.9 percent about an arms buildup, and 0.1 percent about arms control, for propaganda.

TASS NOTES U.S. UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TEST

LD150656 Moscow TASS in English 0642 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] San Francisco April 15 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Ustimenko reports:

The U.S. has carried out an underground explosion of a nuclear device Thursday at a testing ground in the State of Nevada. According to a spokesman of the U.S. Energy Department, its capacity was about 150 kilotons. It is worth recalling, for the sake of comparison, that the capacity of the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima was 20 kilotons.

It was the 605th test at the Nevada testing ground since January 1951 and the fourth in the current year. The U.S. press points out that since the present Republican administration came to power, the number of underground explosions and their capacity have considerably grown. Washington is carrying out at an accelerated pace the program of the nuclear arms build-up and preparations for nuclear war. These steps are directed against the efforts of peoples and peaceful states which strive to curb the nuclear arms race and to prevent a thermonuclear catastrophe.

As is known, last year the U.S. Administration decided not to resume the Soviet-U.S.-British talks broken off by the U.S. on the complete and universal banning of the nuclear arms tests. Simultaneously the decision was adopted not to ratify Soviet-U.S. treaties signed in 1974 and 1976 on the limitation of nuclear arms tests and on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes.

USSR, BLOC SPEAKERS AT UN DISARMAMENT TALKS CITED

LD161651 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] Geneva April 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Yuriy Kosinskiy reports:

At the Committee on Disarmament, in development of the initiatives set out in the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member states, the delegates of socialist countries have suggested a package of concrete measures with a view to expediting the elaboration of international agreements on banning various types of weapons of mass destruction.

H. Jaroszek, Polish deputy minister of foreign affairs, made a speech at the committee's meeting on behalf of the Polish delegation. He reaffirmed the readiness of socialist countries to consider any proposals aimed at strengthening international security. He pointed out that the socialist countries' initiative on concluding a treaty on mutual non-use of military force and on the maintenance of relations of peace between the Warsaw Treaty member states and the NATO countries opens up broad prospects for that. However, the USA and its allies do not want to look for mutually acceptable and just solutions to international problems, solutions based on the principle of parity and equal security.

The West continues to offer absurd proposals, such as, in particular, the "zero" and "interim" options, to socialist states while building up its arsenals and carrying out multibillion programs for the development and production of new types of weapons of mass destruction, the Polish delegate pointed out.

The aim of the U.S. foreign-policy course, emphasized M. Vejvoda, representative of Czechoslovakia, is to undermine the military-strategic balance that has been established. Washington in words recognises the inadmissibility of gaining unilateral advantage while in deeds it renounces balanced measures in the field of disarmament.

It was stressed in the speech made by V. Israelyan, head of the delegation of the USSR, that the Soviet Union consistently comes forward with concrete proposals on the question of prohibition of chemical weapons and regards it as one of paramount problems. He pointed out that the non-constructive stand of the USA and other NATO members and the inspired-by-them campaign of lies and slander against the USSR and other socialist countries, have become an obstacle to the elaboration of an agreement on the prohibition of chemical weapons.

The speech made at the committee's meeting by U.S. representative L. Fields sounded totally unconvincing. He tried to whitewash Washington's policy. The U.S. line at the talks fully disproves such assertions, it was underlined in speeches made by the delegates of socialist countries.

BOGOMOLOV INTERVIEWED ON CEMA ECONOMIC POLICY

LD162100 Budapest MTI in English 1723 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] Budapest, April 16 (MTI) -- Academician Oleg Bogomolov, director of the Institute for World Economy and International Relations of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, gave an interview to NEPSZABADSAG on the economic situation and the role of the socialist countries and on the progress of socialist integration. The interview is carried in the Saturday issue of the daily.

In spite of all their production and marketing difficulties, the CEMA countries have considerable development potentials. The CEMA countries produce 30 percent of the world total of several staple products.

"The socialist countries run ambitions and successful joint programmes, which are rather unique," stressed the academician. The pace of our development -- although it has slowed down somewhat -- indicates further possibilities for progress. Between 1972 and 1982, gross national income had grown 1.7-fold in the CEMA and 1.3-fold in the EEC countries. The dynamism of the industrial and agricultural production of the socialist countries surpasses by a wide margin the rate of growth of our share in world trade. This, on the one hand, indicates further possibiliities for expansion, but on the other, highlights a not too [word indistinct] phenomenon: an overt discrimination by the most advanced capitalist countries and other covert forms of protectionist treatment in many disguises.

Asked what resources the socialist countries can tap in order to give an impetus to the development of their economies, Bogomolov said:

"The crisis of the capitalist world is much deeper than would appear to the casual eye. Under such circumstances the socialist countries must review their foreign economic strategies, both together and separately, the process of socialist economic integration is a fundamental interest of each member country as the benefits of cooperation are just as obvious as the disadvantages of missed opportunities of joint actions... Clearly, we have to re-assess the potentials of our relations, and the intensity of our cooperation also from the point of view of the deterioration of the terms of trade with several countries, and higher interest rates that now prevail in several countries as an after-effect of the energy crisis, which factors call for a new attitude to be adopted by all of us."

Bogomolov continued to say:

"The CEMA countries have always traded with the West to varying extent, so its crisis has also affected them in varying degrees. Though the socialist countries have reacted to this in a similar way, neither the similarities nor the character of their responses to the challenge reveal autarchic endeavours. On the contrary: Partner countries consider it their fundamental interest to expand cooperation with the advanced capitalist countries and oppose all attempts aimed at impairing East-West relations... These relations must, however be based exclusively on equality and mutual advantages without discrimination. However, the experience, that real profit can be expected to be gained from these contacts only on the basis of the results of socialist integration, must never be overlooked."

Discussing the new stage of the manifestation of integration interests, the Soviet academician said:

"I think that the joint development of a long-term economic strategy and the efforts to match internal structures should be a priority. New and more demanding plans call for setting strategic goals properly... The past decades have shown that each CEMA country 'can do better' than the other. This fact must certainly be considered when a long-term strategy is to be worked out. Efforts pay off better dividends if they really correspond to national traditions."

"As to the future, it seems that the modern concept of the international division of labour will be emphasized. I think it is important to increase the number of joint companies that operate on the basis of modern principles. I see great opportunities for cooperation ventures in the manufacture of construction machinery and in the establishment of a closed agricultural system together. I believe that the main principle of strategic planning should be the coordination of results achieved so far and their common development. Everything points to the fact that the integration of the socialist countries provides more room for the expansion of the economies of the member states, and opens up new dimensions for their internal development, said Soviet Academician Bogomolov.

WARSAW PACT MILITARY COUNCIL TO MEET IN BUCHAREST

LD180829 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] The next session of the Military Council of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Pact member-states will be held in Bucharest, the capital of the Socialist Republic of Romania, in the last 10 days of April this year.

A number of matters regarding the current activities of the Joint Armed Forces, in the light of the decisions of the Political Consultative Committee and the session of the Committee of Defense Ministers of the Warsaw Pact member-states held in Prague in 1983, will be examined at the session.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD171640 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0845 GMT 17 Apr 83

["International Observers Roundtable" program with APN political observer Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov, MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI Chief Editor Nikolay Ivanovich Yefimov, and All-Union Radio commentator Vitaliy Sergeyevich Sobolev]

May Day; Karl Marx Conference

[Text] [Sobolev] Hello, comrades: Today the May Day slogans of the CPSU Central Committee to the working people of our country and all progressive mankind are printed in the press. The traditional preholiday address by our party confirms its loyalty to Leninist behests and to the ideals of the struggle against imperialism, and for peace, democracy and socialism. The slogans stress the need to deal a resolute rebuff to the aggressive intrigues of imperialism, to curb the arms race and remove the threat of war. The words "long live the peace-loving foreign policy of the Soviet Union" find a response in the hearts of people both in our country and abroad. The slogans of the CPSU Central Committee stress that Marxism-Leninism is an eternal, living, revolutionary, internationalist teaching.

In the last week the international scientific conference "Karl Marx and the Present Day -- The Struggle for Peace and Social Progress" took place in the capital of the GDR. More than 140 parties and movements were represented there.

[Yefimov] The delegates showed the invincible strength of Marxist ideas, their transforming revolutionary spirit in keeping with our times. Marxism having triumphantly passed the most difficult test, the test of life, Comrade Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said, became firmly established in the consciousness of mankind as its highest spiritual achievement. Today already one-third of the world's population, having thrown off the yoke of capitalism, is building life according to new socialist laws, which Marx foresaw through the veil of decades.

[Sobolev] The ideas of Karl Marx have become a reality on German soil, in his motherland. Noting this, Comrade Honecker addressed the conference citing a number of figures which bear witness to the steady material progress in the countries of real socialism. The national income of the GDR in just over 30 years has increased almost eightfold. Last year, a period of gloomy crisis in all major capitalist industrial states — a crisis whose inevitable cyclical repetition, by the way, Marx had already proved — last year production in the GDR increased by 4.3 percent. Other delegates from socialist countries cited similar statistics in their addresses.

[Gerasimov] Conferences devoted to Marx have also taken place in other countries. Such a conference took place in New York where a report was delivered by Gus Hall, secretary general of the Communist Party of the United States. And he said that Ronald Reagan and his policy serve as convincing proof that the teachings of Karl Marx can also be applied now to an analysis of American reality.

[Yefimov] Marxism, indeed, does not age. I recall one idea expressed by the founder of Marxism, which at the present sounds as if it had in reality been written now. Out of all the dogmatists of bigoted policies, wrote Marx -- and it was really more than 100 years ago — not one of them wrought so much misfortune as did the dogmatist who pronounced: If you want peace, then prepare for war. This great truth, distinguished mainly by the fact that it contains a great lie, constitutes a battle cry which has called the whole of Europe to arms.

Adelman Approval; MX, Midget Deployment

[Sobolev] And probably now we might add the United States. Under a false oath to peace and disarmament the leaders of the United States and its allies are preparing ever more actively for war. This week American legislators discussed or are still discussing three questions at once which are connected with the arms race, some of them in Congress itself and others still privately. This primarily regards the resolution concerning the freeze of nuclear arsenals, and also the fate of the new MX ballistic missiles, and the candidacy of Adelman to the post of director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. With regard to the freeze, the idea is so attractive to the Americans -- according to data from the Harris Poll, four out of every five asked supported it -- that the idea was approved by the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee while the Reagan government is doing everything possible to delay the voting of the relevant resolution in the House of Representatives, as at the moment it should clearly obtain a majority.

[Gerasimov] Adelman has already been appointed. His appointment is nothing but a mockery, nor does it make common sense. Adelman appeared before the Senate Committee as an unschooled ignoramus in questions of disarmament. According to reports by the American press itself, he was unable to give a sensible reply to one elementary question put to him by the committee members on specific questions of disarmament.

But he knows exactly what is wanted from him by the President and the entire Presidential retinue. Here are Adelman's exact words, I quote: The arms limitation talks are subterfuge to which the United States was merely compelled to resort in order to reassure the American people and allies. It turns out -- just think about it -- that the Geneva talks are but subterfuge for Washington, and nothing more. And such a man has become responsible for disarmament in the United States.

[Sobolev] As regards Adelman's appointment, it is interesting that a few hours before the vote, the President himself sat down at the telephone. He sat the vice president and a number of cabinet members down at telephones and they started to call the senators and twist their arms, as they say, to get them to vote in favor of Adelman. It should be said that in general one can very often see not so much politics as politicking in Washington.

[Gerasimov] The issue of a freeze, too, shows the same thing. Here too, Reagan invited 25 Democratic congressmen to the White House and explained to them the danger of a freeze. That is, he linked his own personal prestige with this issue. Well now, let's see what comes of it. The House of Representatives debated this issue on Wednesday. Due to obstruction on the part of congressmen who share Reagan's point of view, there was no vote. It was postponed until next week.

[Sobolev] One should say a few words about the new MX ballistic missiles. If one is to believe the U.S. President, these are intended to close the window of vulnerability. The fact is that the pretext of the arms race which the White House is putting about with the greatest amount of noise, Soviet military superiority, is chiefly addressed to the uninformed broad public. For those who have some understanding of the problem, there is another more refined, though no less false, pretext, that of the so-called window of vulnerability. This is founded on the likewise false premise that the Soviet Union might be the first to inflict a nuclear strike, even though it was the Soviet Union which took on the official commitment not to be the first to use this weapon. The United States, however, refrained from making such a commitment. So, for more than a year American strategists have been racking their brains how to deploy MX in such a way as to make them invulnerable. They went through more than 30 alternatives, and a commission under retired Lieutenant General Scowcroft was entrusted with the job of sorting out these proposals.

The commission was more than a month late with the results of its deliberations; and, according to American press reports, rather than complicate matters unnecessarily, it decided to install the new missiles in the existing missile silos, either on the grounds that these silos are invulnerable in any case, or that invulnerability is an unattainable goal. In any case, Senator Levin, a Democrat, described the commission's ideas as a dangerous and expensive swindle; and Republican Senator Hatfield considers that adopting the commission's recommendations would mean declaring for all to hear that America adheres to the strategy of the first nuclear strike. Even this comrade-in-arms of the President understands clearly that the MX missiles are no shutter on the window of vulnerability, but merely a tool of aggression.

[Gerasimov] The Strategic Forces Commission did not, however, limit itself just to giving the green light to the deployment of MX missiles. The commission recommended that other aspects of the American nuclear arsenal be reinforced, the strategic triad, as they call it: submarine-based missiles and air-based nuclear weapons; and, what should be noted especially, as though this general full speed ahead signal were not enough, the commission advised that the MX missiles should be given a kind of small brother, namely, a new, single-warhead missile. While the MX missile has 10 warheads, this will have 1. It will be a single-warhead land-based, intercontinental ballistic missile which will, furthermore, be mobile. Midget, they call it. It will weigh 15 tons, and is a midget compared to the 96-ton MX. Its advantage will lie in its mobility. If this Midget ever comes about, it will make further arms control negotiations exceptionally difficult, for a whole host of new American nuclear missiles, a vast number of them, will result. The question arises, straight away, what of the Americans' own proposals on some sort of limit on the number of these missiles? General Scowcroft himself said that this matter must obviously be examined.

[Yefimov] That is, the new missiles cross that barrier beyond which control is no longer possible. They are continually being moved about, their movements cannot be monitored, their numbers cannot be determined, and so neither the whereabouts of the missile nor the ceiling of these missiles can be known by any country.

And so, all the disarmament talks may turn out to be fruitless. This is a very dangerous, I would even say critical, frontier which America is planning to cross.

[Gerasimov] Anyway, this commission has in the meantime submitted its report for the President to approve or reject as he thinks fit. And he is, indeed procrastinating because Congress is at the moment discussing the problems of a freeze. However, likely as not he will approve the report.

U.S., FRG Views on Arms

[Sobolev] Reagan has had conflicts with many congressmen because of the danger of these missiles. The conflicts that the American Administration and the NATO leaders are having with West European public opinion is becoming increasingly acute. The press, struck by the scale of the spring marches, is still reflecting on what this promises for the future of the program of so-called supplementing the levels of Euromissiles, or rather the rearmament of NATO with American medium-range missiles. A commentator of the American CBS television company believes that the marches are only a precursor of the powerful reaction in FRG that would result if American missiles were deployed. Over two-thirds of West Germans are against the missiles, according to opinion polls. If the government's plans do not change, stated one trade union leader, citizens of the FRG will begin protest strikes.

FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl went to Washington last week in order to discuss these plans once more.

[Gerasimov] I would like to relate one curious episode concerning this. When Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's government was in power in West Germany, the Ministry of Defense prepared a regular paper, a white paper on defense, which is published periodically. When the authorities changed and Helmut Kohl became Chancellor, the white paper was declared to be secret and it was not published. What is secret about it? It turned out that after a detailed, meticulous comparison of the NATO forces and the forces of the Warsaw Pact countries, the paper concluded that the Soviet Union does not have superiority over the West in any parameters. Such a conclusion contradicts the Reagan's assertions. For example, it contradicts what is written in Reagan's letter about a freeze to the House of Representatives. That is why -- as the White House does not like the white paper -- it has been given the stamp of "secret."

There is a popular phrase that says that Plato is my friend, but truth is dearer. However, for the West German Government, it is the opposite: Reagan is our friend, and down with truth. Incidentally, down with truth could generally be recommended as a slogan for the present American Administration.

[Sobolev] If the administration could have its way, it would with pleasure place the secret stamp on the peaceful proposals put forward by the Soviet Union and socialist countries as well. Fortunately, this is not within its power and these proposals are known and supported both in Western Europe and the United States itself.

[Yefimov] Nevertheless, the West does not know enough about our proposals and those of the socialist countries; the proposals are important, interesting and far-reaching.

The latest session of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Pact states was held in Prague. The ministers again confirmed that the proposals made by the Political Consultative Committee remain in force and that the socialist countries are awaiting an answer to these very important initiatives.

I will quote only a few of those initiatives proposed by the socialist community. To conclude a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace between member states of the Warsaw Pact and NATO; to create in northern Europe and in the Balkans a zone free of nuclear missiles; to reduce armed forces and armaments of the Warsaw Pact and NATO in central Europe to equal quantities, to 900,000 men. We are waiting for a response to these proposals.

Comrade Gromyko, speaking at a press conference in Moscow, especially emphasized that we are awaiting a response to our proposals.

[Gerasimov] Incidentally, many figures in the West promised to study them attentively; FRG Foreign Minister Genscher said that these proposals must be studied.

[Yefimov] Indeed, they promised to study them, but how long can one study them? It is time to give an answer.

[Sobolev] Yes, the Soviet position on nuclear weapons in Europe, for example, is so obvious, sincere and constructive that many major political figures in the West support it. For example, Egon Bahr, member of the Executive of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, is in favor of supplementing levels of armaments. For example, this is what he writes concerning Comrade Gromyko's press conference: Unfortunately, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko is right. Unfortunately, writes Bahr -- as it would be much more pleasant for us as partners of the West to observe that the United States is taking the right stand.

Bahr goes on to comment that at the medium-range arms talks, the Soviet Union proposed serious arguments. These arguments are convincing to West Europeans and give them a landmark, a goal in their struggle, and hope that the arms race can be slowed down, halted, and turned back.

Denmark on MX Deployment

[Yefimov] I recently participated in the work of the Denmark-USSR Society Congress in Copenhagen. It was a very representative congress, with the delegates representing four political parties, including two parties belonging to the present government coalition in Denmark. It seemed to me while I was listening to the speeches by writers, artists, scientists and churchmen at this congress, that this was Denmark itself speaking about its problems and hopes, especially about the problem of war and peace. The Danes' anxieties, it seemed to me, were expressed very graphically by the famous artist Herluf Bidstrup. He shared his impressions of an old American film recently shown on Danish television. In this film, the actor Ronald Reagan played the role of a cowboy who without taking aim and shooting from the hip -- and most importantly, without a second's thought -- defeated his opponents with a pistol. It is terrible to think, Bidstrup said, that such a mighty country as the United States is headed by people who are able to press the trigger without pausing for reflection, all the more so if they deploy nuclear weapons in Europe to inflict a first strike.

Of course, it is not just a matter of Ronald Reagan himself, and not so much of Reagan alone, as of the U.S. military-industrial complex that stands behind the President. The Danes are afraid of just such a turn of events, no matter how much the bourgeois newspapers sometimes lull them. Hermond Lannung, chairman of the Denmark-USSR Society and a well-known Danish lawyer, put it very accurately at this congress: We are at the most dangerous point of development in international relations. We are the first generation of people that has the opportunity to destroy every living thing on earth. However, we are also the first generation to be able to avert such a course of events. It seems as though the Danes understand this very well. In any case, they were the first this year to start the Easter antiwar marches.

[Gerasimov] I was also in Denmark just before the start of these very marches. It is an interesting point. What can Denmark do? After all, it is a small country. Visitors to that country can get a phamphlet written in Russian that is modestly entitled "Denmark, a Little Bit of Peace." On the cover is a drawing of the country made to look like a pawn on a chessboard. Chess players, incidentally, know that even a pawn can decide the outcome of a game. One must assume that in Denmark, as in other small countries in Europe, people are feeling a growing anxiety about what they can do to save Europe and their own country from the threat of nuclear destruction.

[Yefimov] A great country may have a short-sighted and petty policy; conversely, a small country may have a great policy.

[Gerasimov] Denmark is also doing some things officially. For instance, Denmark has in principle refused to have nuclear weapons on its territory. Denmark has frozen the country's future contributions to financing the NATO program for deployment of new U.S. nuclear missiles. These missiles are being deployed, after all, at NATO's common expense, so to speak. Denmark will not be paying.

The Social Democrats are being particularly active in this sphere, I would say. They have issued 10 points on disarmament. Among them are ones receiving a wide response -- such as the demand for a freeze on nuclear arsenals, refusal to deploy NATO medium-range missiles in exchange for a substantial cut in Soviet missiles, the need to account for the nuclear arsenals of Britain and France in the Geneva negotiations, and refusal to deploy missiles while negotiations are in progress. And so on. Thus, even a small country can do something.

American Policy in Central America

[Sobolev] Continuing the program, I should like to turn once again to the CPSU Central Committee slogans. Our party addresses a warm greeting to the peoples of Latin America who are fighting against imperialism and reaction for the democratic development of their countries. This appeal is addressed also to the people of Nicaragua. An undeclared war unleashed by American imperialism against the people of this country and conducted through its hirelings is being waged in this country. These are mainly Somoza bands; however, the United States dragged in many other counterrevolutionary rabbles from various countries, starting with Cuban gusanos. In addition to Latin Americans, there are also, for instance, people from Europe -- even from Norway, as the DAGBLADET newspaper has reported seven fortune hunters have left for Central America. One of them stated he was going to suppress communism, and that he hoped to receive pay equal to that of the other foreigners in the bandits' detachments. Of course, we must stress the role of the Honduran reactionary brasshats among Washington's mercenaries. They serve as the transmission link, so to speak, between the American headquarters, which really leads the anti-Nicaraguan operations and the mercenaries who are carrying them out.

[Gerasimov] It must be said that the United States here is violating not only international law but also its own law. They have a special provision in law which forbids the government from undertaking any action to overthrow the existing system in Nicaragua, or to instigate conflict between Nicaragua and Honduras. The White House is now doing both of these things, although in so doing it is stating that it is not going beyond the bounds of the law. Reagan talked about this on Thursday.

[Sobolev] However, there is evidence of direct contacts between American instructors and Somoza hirelings. THE NEW YORK TIMES describes how the Americans trained saboteurs before they were put into Nicaragua, how weapons were delivered to the bandits, how they are provided with reconnaissance information, and they have developed some quite widespread activities for this. American aircraft, electronic surveillance stations, naval vessels and CIA agents operating on the territory of Nicaragua, all of them serve the counter-revolutionaries who have invaded that country. The ABC television company, citing U.S. intelligence staff, reported that approximately 100 American citizens and hundreds of other individuals who are not Americans but who are paid by the CIA are taking part in operations of this kind.

I called this war undeclared, but the same THE NEW YORK TIMES published last week a document which might be called a declaration of war against all progressive forces of Central America, and primarily those of Nicaragua, and Cuba, and the El Salvador patriots. This document of the U.S. National Security Council is called top secret by the newspaper, although quite honestly there are no particular secrets in it. Its methodically sets out how Washington intends to support reactionary pro-American regimes and to try to overthrow those which it calls communists. The strategists consider it sufficient to allocate $1 billion annually for all these purposes. The methods are the most varied; they include, for example, economic pressure, which is used against Nicaragua. The fact is that although Nicaraguan exports to the United States and imports from that country have been reduced since the fall of Somoza, they still constitute a significant part of the republic's foreign trade. Under Somoza the country was tied completely to the U.S. economy, and during the period of not quite 4 years since he was overthrown the former links have certainly not been broken off. The Nicaraguans have not been striving toward this, quite the opposite, and so now Washington is using them to undermine Nicaragua's economy and finances. The National Security Council report contains instructions for intelligence work against the Sandinists, which is now being carried out. And so we see that the council's directions are being diligently implemented.

When he was still a candidate for the presidency Reagan swore that he would block the way to communism, and primarily so in Latin America. The training of the Somoza people began on a broad scale when he became President. Now the Somoza people have been trained, armed, and thrown into battle. New incursions are being prepared, and Latin Americans and people in the United States itself are issuing warnings about the extension of American interference, which might go so far as the possibility of direct intervention under some kind of fabricated pretext.

These prospects, like the danger of a war between Nicaragua and Honduras, trouble the entire continent, which from its own experience is familiar with American interventions. And so the foreign ministers of Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico, and Panama proposed an initiative to settle the Nicaragua-Honduras conflict and the whole situation in Central America. However, the Honduran Government, on U.S. instructions, together with the United States is refusing to take part in direct talks, which is making it necessary to expect a further extension of the aggression.

Life is difficult for the Nicaraguans: they have much work to do, peaceful, creative, urgent work. Now they are having to switch over to military affairs once again. But the Somoza people have no chance at all, which is unanimously admitted by American military observers too. Although the bandit detachments are numerous, they do not represent a serious military force. Nevertheless the Nicaraguans do, of course, have a serious enemy: the United States itself. And they are able to fight it only because the solidarity of all progressive mankind is on their side.

[Yefimov] This is indeed so. The conference of heads of countries belonging to the Nonaligned Movement in Delhi...

[Sobolev] There are more than 100 of them.

[Yefimov] There are more than 100 of them -- expressed their solidarity with the struggle of the Nicaraguan people. Recently the Socialist International Congress, which includes 75 socialist and social democratic parties, expressed support for the struggle of the Nicaraguan people.

U.S. Plans in Near East

[Sobolev] And now, comrades, we will turn to the situation in the Near East, which remains alarming. There Israel with Washington's blessing is continuing its aggressive terrorist policy. New plans have been announced for extending the militarized settlements on the land that was occupied more than 15 years ago. Hundreds of Palestinian schoolchildren have become new victims of the Zionists, and As-Sartawi, PLO representative at the Socialist International Congress; has been killed. The talks on the withdrawal of the occupation forces from Lebanon have been taken into a complete blind alley by the efforts of Tel Aviv. There is a buildup of Israeli forces in the Al-Biqa' Valley, that is, the threat of aggression against Syria is growing. The occupiers are becoming more impudent.

[Yefimov] Nasir al-Asad, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Action Organization in Lebanon, visited the editorial offices of MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI recently. He told us in very great details about the situation which has arisen in the southern regions of Lebanon.

What did he tell us? That the repression of the Israeli occupiers is certainly not coming to a stop; it is becoming intensified. He gave the following facts: in the last 6 months 1,500 Lebanese patriots have been abducted. Their fate, where they are, is known, although we might guess what their fate might be. Thus they are trying to remove the leaders of the Lebanese patriotic movement.

On the other hand, with the tacit agreement of the United States, the Israeli occupiers are cutting down orange groves, destroying tobacco plantations, and thereby undermining the economic foundation of the Lebanese population's existence in the southern regions of their own country. At this time Israel, the Zionist rulers of Israel are pursuing their old aims: those of obtaining maximum Arab territory and of doing everything possible to ensure that the minimum is left for the Arabs.

[Gerasimov] During the week quite a lot has been written too about the Reagan plan. This is the plan according to which the United States and Israel are ready to discuss the fate of the Palestinians with anyone at all except a representative of the Palestinian people, except the PLO, the recognized representative of the Palestinian people. And the Americans have been placing particular hopes in Jordan, that it would assume this role and hold talks with Israel about the fate of the occupied territories on behalf of the Palestinians. The United States started to exert pressure on Jordan. But after a meeting with Yasir 'Arafat, the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, King Husayn refused to play ball with the United States and Israel. And the PLO has published its own opinion about the Reagan plan. It stresses that this plan does not guarantee the return of the Palestinian territories, nor does it give the Palestinian people the right to self-determination.

It is now reported that Secretary of State George Shultz is ready to set off one a tour of Near East countries at any moment -- something of a rescue operation, to rescue the Reagan plan. Moreover the Near East is a frequent destination for journeys by American secretaries of state, although the present one, Shultz, has not yet been there. Whether these trips bring results, of course, is another question.

[Sobolev] The Near East needs a lasting and just peace -- this is stressed in the slogans of the CPSU Central Committee. And a lasting peace is needed by all mankind, too. Addressing the peoples of the whole planet, our party calls: Multiply Your Efforts in the Struggle To Prevent a Nuclear Catastrophe! Under slogans like this festive demonstrations will take place during May in different countries of the world. Here, comrades, we end the broadcast. Thank you for your attention. All the best.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'

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["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by All-Union Radio foreign political commentator, Yevgeniy Kachanov, with TASS political observer Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin and international affairs journalist Igor Petrovich Belyayev]

U.S. Military Bases, Strategy

[Excerpts] [Kachanov] Our regular listener Yakov Tikhonovich Makarov from the village of Krivozerye, Penza Oblast, expresses alarm in his letter at the fact that the United States has entangled the whole globe with military bases, which number 1,500. We showed the letter to TASS political observer Gennadiy Arkadyevich Shishkin. Over to you, Gennadiy Arkadyevich.

[Shishkin] If you look at a map indicating the location of Pentagon bases abroad it is not difficult to be persuaded of the fact that the very geography of their disposition speaks of the Pentagon's striving to keep forward-based nuclear weapons near the borders of the Soviet Union and other socialist countires. At his last press conference in Moscow, Comrade Gromyko dwelt especially on the sinister significance of this ring of U.S. military bases. Japan and its surrounding waters are (?equipped) with nuclear weapons and the corresponding delivery vehicles.

The island of Okinawa has effectively been turned into an unsinkable U.S. aircraft-carrier and South Korea into a whole complex of nuclear weapons bases. The Indian Ocean particularly the Diego Garcia base, is also filled with nuclear weapons. All these weapons, Comrade Gromyko emphasized, can reach Soviet territory. Moreover, as regards these bases, we are talking here of medium-range weapons only but, after all, in addition to this, there are the U.S. strategic weapons targeted at the Soviet Union.

[Kachanov] Gennadiy Arkadyevich, there is no need to speak about these bases in military terms; what about their role and place in the U.S. global political strategy?

[Shishkin] On the one hand, their job is to serve as a so-called trump card for pursuing the notorious policy of force and as a means of nuclear blackmail against the socialist countries. On the other hand, it is evident that the Pentagon bases have the job of serving as a kind of magnet repelling a strike on U.S. territory. In full accordance with this strategy, preparations are now underway for deploying new U.S. missiles in Western Europe. All the European governments, the French newspaper LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE states, understand well that the United States naturally will try not to attract a Soviet nuclear strike on its territory.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly and at the highest level convincingly shown the futility and divorced from reality of the policy of nuclear blackmail and threats against the socialist countries. The completely undubstantiated nature of the calculations to make nuclear war acceptable in terms of achieving the interests of U.S. imperialism is also becoming evident to increasingly broad sections of the American public. This explains the mighty growth of antiwar demonstrations in the United States.

Nevertheless, the Reagan administration is strenuously regenerating and bolstering the policy of the big stick and does not wish to reckon with the fact that the present-day world does not resemble the old one and that power now no longer lies only with the United States.

[Kachanov] Gennadiy Arkadyevich, no doubt all these 1,500 bases are aimed not only against the Soviet Union. After all, for example, the Indian press has repeatedly pointed out that the Diego Garcia base is posing a direct threat to the security of India. What can be said on this subject?

[Shishkin] The United States has raised a great fuss about its vulnerability in the event of the cessation of imports of various kinds of strategic raw materials. It was officially announced that the United States is 50 percent and in certain cases even 100 percent dependent on foreign sources of major types of raw material that are viewed as extremely necessary for U.S. security. Here, it was especially emphasized that the vast majority of strategic minerals is obtained by the United States from the developing countries. In as much as without those raw materials the United States could not survive, as experts of the Pentagon and other Washington departments maintain, priority goes to guaranteeing their uninterrupted supplies. The conclusion typical for imperialist policy is made that it is essential to establish American control over their extraction and delivery.

Washington has declared whole areas of the globe to be spheres of vital interest to the United States, and to provide for these imperialist appetites the 200,000-strong Rapid Deployment Force was created for which old bases are being modernized and new bases are being set up abroad. Depending on which countries these bases are located in, they are frequently used as either a means of exerting pressure on the democratic forces or as forward posts upon which the imperialist forces can rely to provide support to anti-popular regimes and pursue a policy of neocolonialism.

In setting up its network of military bases in the Indian Ocean, in the countries of the Near and Middle East and in the countries of Africa and Latin America, the United States is striving to subordinate them to its hegemony and without hindrance pump their natural riches.

Just the other day President Reagan declared threateningly: If we decide that we need to fight for the Persian Gulf, from which we get oil, then we will fight, and with even greater reason we will fight for the Gulf of Mexico through which half of our martime cargo passes. The strengthening of old and the creation of new U.S. bases abroad and the dangerous military-political undertakings of the Reagan administration in various areas of the world present a serious threat for the whole world. The attempts of the militarist U.S. imperialist circles to go onto counteroffensive are countered by the continuing peace offensive of the socialist community countries which is now bolstered by the unprecedented growth of opposition to the policy of war and aggression on the part of the broad masses of the nonsocialist world.

Afghan Revolution, USSR Relations

[Kachanov] Many of our radio listeners put questions to us about the current political situation in Afghanistan. Such letters have come from Leningrad from listener Vasilyev, from Tomsk from Tatyana Medysheva, from Nur Makhomedov in Ashkhabad, and many others. I think we have reason to talk about this today, all the more since 27 April will mark the fifth anniversary of the April Revolution in Afghanistan. In our studio is Igor Petrovich Belyayev, doctor of economic sciences and a regular contributor to our program. We showed him these letters. Over to you, Igor Petrovich.

[Belyayev] Yevgeniy Ivanovich, I would like first to draw the attention of our radio listeners to the anniversary you mentioned: It is 5 years since the Afghan revolution of national liberation. In what areas are these successes particularly marked? First of all, in agriculture, the main industry of Afghanistan's economy. I have in mind here the implementation of radical social transformations, the agrarian reform; in the past 5 years, despite huge difficulties, the central government and the relevant ministries have carried out an enormous amount of work in order to provide the workers with land and in areas they have done this already, also to provide them with seeds, water and vehicles. To put it briefly, we are talking about a whole complex of measures included in land reform.

I would also like to draw our radio listeners' attention to the fact that the revolution for many Afghans is, if you like, enlightenment; it is education, secondary, technical and higher education. Afghan children have thus been given the opportunity to go to school regularly, and this applies to the tribes where, incidentally, much educative work was necessary in order to get fathers to send their girls to school. I would like to emphasize that the population in Afghanistan is not simply backward: We are talking about a very high level of illiteracy; more than 90 percent of the population are unable either to read or write. The greater part of the population in Afghanistan are of the Islamic faith, and it seemed to many that the revolution would not be able to overcome the obstacle in the way of having dealings with the Islamic clergy or, in the border sense of the word, with believers. Now we have grounds for maintaining that the revolutionary leadership in Afghanistan is successfully organizing cooperation with the higher clergy and with the local clergy. The mullahs even in the small rural centers understand now that, after all, in the final analysis the revolution gives a great deal to the people, so that believers therefore should not stand in opposition to everything that is taking place in the country but, on the contrary, should support the transformations that are connected with deepening the revolutionary process in the country.

[Kachanov] Igor Petrovich, when we speak of Afghanistan no doubt each of us reflects -- and in our replies to radio listeners' questions we now frequently emphasize -- that in the Middle East two wars are going on at the same time, one the declared war between Iran and Iraq, which is a different topic, and the other war, the undeclared one that is being waged against Afghanistan, against the Afghan revolution.

[Belyayev] That war is being waged by the United States and by some neighboring countries that make their territories available for the concentration of counter revolutionary forces: We are talking also about the sending in of agents, about the destructive work that has effectively amounted to the encouragement of basmaches and dushmans inside the country or to the strengthening of bands on the territory of Pakistan. In this last year we have witnessed a very interesting process: Hundreds if not thousands of dushmans are going over into the side of the revolution. They are not yet, if you like, active proponents of revolutionary ideas, but the fact that they are putting down their weapons and are ending their opposition to the central government and the local revolutionary authorities, that, I feel, is a highly important sign that the revolution will triumph.

Here is yet another point. It is as follows: In the whole of the 5 years that have passed since the victory of the Afghan revolution, its opponents have not been united but have been constantly arguing among themselves. There is no platform on which they could counter the Afghan revolution. This is the weakness of the counterrevolution and the strength of the revolution. If, today, there are still people who are inclined to act against the revolution inside the country, they operate at night. These are people who fear the light of day, who pursue subversive activity for the benefit, if you like, of the enemies of the Afghan people.

[Kachanov] Igor Petrovich, today as we mark the fifth anniversary of the Afghan revolution of national liberation each of us no doubt recalls the quite rich and long history of Soviet-Afghan relations. Let us recall that immediately after the October Revolution, Moscow was visited by the mission of Amanollah Khan. Soviet Russia and then the Soviet Union always maintained friendly and very warm relations. If today an industrial enterprise goes into operation, something which is for the benefit of the Afghan people, then we rejoice together with the Afghans since in helping to build industrial enterprises, elevators and roads we, in the end, are thereby promoting the success of the revolution of national liberation in our neighbor country.

[Belyayev] Today, helping the Afghan people to carry through revolutionary transformations successfully in agriculture, education and the economy promotes the triumph of principles of justice in the domestic and foreign policy of Afghanistan. We are in favor of solving Afghan problems through peaceful ways and means. Therefore, it is essential to end the undeclared war against Afghanistan. That is why we welcomed the start of the talks in Geneva between the Afghan Government and Pakistani representatives. The talks are being held under the aegis of the United Nations. A special representative of UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar is participating and if these talks are successful, then, as far as I understand it, we will be making progress toward solving the Afghan problem.

[Kachanov] But, Igor Petrovich, after all, Iran has yet to join these talks. One hopes that at some stage it will do so.

[Beyayev] At any rate, for our part, there are no reservations on that account. No, if Iran decides to join in these talks, the Iranian delegation in Geneva will be only too welcome.

[Kachanov] Many thanks, Igor Petrovich.

Growing Japanese Militarism, Anti-Sovietism

[Kachanov] Our regular listeners from Novisibirsk, Sergey Nikolayevich Novikov, and several other comrades have sent letters asking about the social aspects of the militarization of Japan and how the broad circles of Japan's public regard the efforts of the ruling circles to increase military preparations.

Yes, the facts show that the process of militarization is becoming more acute. It became particularly clear after Yasuhiro Nakasone became prime minister 5 months ago.

The Japanese Constitution forbids spending more than 1 percent of the gross national product on military aims, and contains clear antimilitary articles. All of this does not suit the initiators of the present course of militarizing the country. Therefore, they are unleashing all sorts of attacks on the Japanese Constitution, which, they allege, is outdated and does not correspond with the spirit of the historic development of the Japanese nation.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party of course realizes that the Japanese people still remembers the tragic consequences of the militaristic policy of the past. Therefore, this party of the Japanese conservatives has elaborated a plan and an extensive program of brainwashing in order to create an atmosphere that would be favorable to a review of the Constituion and the elimination of those articles that have become unsuitable to the powers that be.

In particular, the authors of this plan are trying to speculate on the very antimilitary emotions of the Japanese. They say that this country's prosperity is possible only in conditions of peace. They say that this must be ensured by strengthening defense and increasing military expenditures.

Against whom must Japan defend itself? The myth has been put into propaganda circulation of the so-called growing military threat from the USSR. This fiction has been raised to the level of state policy on the Japanese islands. In trying to work on public opinion, the organizers of the brainwashing campaign review school programs and textbooks; they remove sections that condemn Japan's militaristic past. Under the pretext of educating the population in a patriotic spirit, the mass information media laud the valor of the prewar army and describe the aggression by the Japanese militarists as simply a necessary defensive action.

Open attempts are being made to revive the former ideas of revanchism and anti-Sovietism by fanning nationalist and chauvinist emotions in the masses of the people.

Australia's New Government; Foreign Relations

[Kachanov] Student Tatyana Frolenko from the town of Zheleznodorozhnyy, Moscow Oblast, asks about the policy of the new Labor government of Australia and about the present state and future prospects for Soviet-Australian relations. We shall fulfill this request.

The new Government of Australia, headed by Robert Hawke, came to power only a little more than a month ago. Therefore, it is still too early to make any definitive judgement about its domestic or foreign policy, all the more so because it has not yet introduced its official program. Nevertheless, the preelection manifesto with which the Labor Party won the elections on 5 March and a number of statements by the new prime minister and by members of his Cabinet allow one to form a general impression of what the main trends will be in the policy of the Hawke government.

First of all, one should recall that Australia has for many years been closely linked with the United States in the political, military and economic spheres. Together with the United States and New Zealand it is a member of the Anzus military-political bloc. There are over 20 U.S. military sites on Australian territory, including important naval and air bases. All this makes a strong imprint on Canberra's foreign policy.

As Robert Hawke stated, relations with the United States remain the determining factor in Australia's foreign policy. However, he stressed that his government does not intend to follow slavishly behind the White House in everything. He will not raise the question of withdrawing the country from the Anzus bloc and closing the U.S. bases but he will strive to strengthen control by the Australian authorities over the activity of these sites.

The Labor government, in the person of Defense Minister Scholes, has come out in favor of the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the southern part of the Pacific. Scholes also stated that he cannot see any external threat to Australia's security and condemned the former conservative Cabinet for its unjustified increase of the country's military potential. As is known the conservative Cabinet cited as justification the mythical Soviet threat. At the same time the minister said that in the next 2 years expenditure on defense will remain at a high level; the reason for this, he said, is the necessity to fulfill agreements previously signed by Australia to buy arms from abroad, primarily from the United States.

As far as Soviet-Australian relations are concerned, there are grounds to expect that they will improve under the Hawke government. The new prime minister promised to undertake steps to reestablish normal relations with our country. He stressed that Australia wants to play a more active role in ensuring peace in the world and there can be no constructive discussion of these questions without the participation of the USSR. By the way, normal diplomatic relations now exist between the USSR and Australia. Our countries conduct mutually advantageous trade. However, in a number of spheres useful bilateral links were violated by the former Australian Government. In particular, cultural exchange was virtually totally removed. Soviet research and tourist vessels were forbidden to call at Australian ports. The granting of Australian visas to Soviet citizens was sharply restricted. Robert Hawke pointed attention to the abnormality of such a situation.

Somalian Internal, Foreign Affairs

[Kachanov] Pavel Fedorovich Proskin from Chelyabinsk, a participant in the Great Patriotic War, asks us to tell of the internal political situation in Somalia and about the actions of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] against the Mogadishu antipeople's regime.

First of all, let us say something about the internal position which the world press almost unanimously describes in one word: crisis. Its roots must be sought primarily in the departure of the Somali leadership from the course of progressive transformations. This departure, as you will recall, took place in the mid-seventies and then the Somali authorities, incited by imperialist circles, unleashed a military adventure against neighboring Ethiopia in order to wrest the Ogaden region from it. The failure of this adventure even further aggravated the crisis.

In its foreign policy, the regime follows blindly in the wake of Washington. The country is increasingly being turned into a strongpoint for the Pentagon's gendarme corps, the notorious Rapid Deployment Force. The Somali port of Berbera has been turned into a major naval base for the U.S. fleet.

It is quite natural that such a course being conducted by Siad Barre has aroused a wave of indignation among the Somali people. The increase in opposition feelings led to the settling up of the DFSS, which has headed the armed struggle against the regime.

The underground radio station Halgan, which means struggle, broadcasts regularly. Some units of governmental troops have gone over into the side of the insurgents. Last July, only massive military aid from the United States saved Siad Barre from total downfall.

At the beginning of this year the Democratic Front's units were conducting active combat operations mainly in the north of Somalia in the regions adjacent to the republic Djibuti, but quite recently they have spread to the central part of the country. AFP, in particular, reported that at the end of march during battles in two central provinces 127 soldiers and officers of the government troops were killed and two armored cars were destroyed. In other words, the struggle of the Somali patriots is expanding.

WFTU GENERAL COUNCIL SESSION ENDS 15 APRIL

LD151653 Moscow TASS in English 1637 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Nicosia April 15 TASS -- The 35th session of the General Council of the World Federation of Trade Unions ended its deliberations in the capital of Cyprus. Trade union delegations from 90 countries discussed the federations role in the struggle for peace and social progress, problems of overcoming unemployment, and endorsed the program of action for 1983-1985.

The session adopted a general declaration of solidarity with the struggle of the working people and nations. The declaration welcomes the intensification of joint action of the working people, trade unions, and all democratic forces to protect their interests from encroachments on the part of transnational corporations and reactionary governments. The document expresses serious concern over the escalation of the arms race, and the desire of the United States and its NATO allies to deploy cruise missiles and Pershing-2 missiles in Western Europe, despite strong public protests.

UN SESSION ON EUROPE REVEALS U.S.-EEC SPLIT

LD152142 Moscow TASS in English 2035 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Geneva April 15 TASS -- TASS correspondent Georgiy Dragunov writes:

The general discussion has ended here at the 38th session of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. Representatives of 19 countries, as well as of the CMEA and other international organisations took part in it. The discussion demonstrated that despite the complex international situation caused by the adventuristic militaristic course of the United States, the ECE countries are displaying a clear interest in the preservation and development of economic, scientific and technical cooperation. Speaking in a constructive spirit for the development and consolidation of mutually advantageous cooperation, the delegation of the Soviet Union outlined again the concrete proposals of socialist community countries on the main questions of the commission's activities.

The representatives of Canada, Norway, Turkey, Austria and a number of other countries noted that international cooperation, including between the East and the West, is especially necessary in conditions of the deep and protracted economic recession in the capitalist world. The delegations of CMEA countries resolutely condemned the impermissible practice of the United States to use international trade as an instrument of political pressure.

Many speakers declared that the successful completion of the Madrid meeting would have a positive effect on the activities of the Economic Commission for Europe, on the continuation of the all-European process the mainstays of which were provided by the European conference in Helsinki.

Noting the positive experience of holding the all-European conference on a high level in 1979 on cooperation in the field of environmental protection, the delegations of the USSR and other socialist countries stressed the feasibility of convening similar conference on energy and transport.

The representatives of Sweden, Spain and Portugal expressed their views on the ways of further expanding European cooperation.

This businesslike and constructive course of work of the session did not suit the United States delegation which openly sought confrontation by raising artificial questions concerning the internal situation in Poland and Afghanistan that are totally unrelated to the agenda of the session. The head of the Soviet delegation, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR Nikita Ryzhov and the head of the Polish delegation, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Henryk Jaroszek and also representatives of other socialist countries repulsed his provocative sally and firmly rejected the slanderous inventions about the USSR and Poland. These actions by by the United States failed to find support among the allies of the United States, with the exception of the West German delegation, and this shows once again that such intrigues have no future.

ZORIN SAYS U.S. SEEKING MILITARY SUPERIORITY

LD171329 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Professor Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] Reports reaching Moscow from Washington indicate that the recent weeks have seen an unprecedented paroxysm of military hysteria whipped up by the American President and his team. The tone of his pronouncements was such that for the first time in many years some American newspapers used the term "warmonger." One may add in this connection that influential West European newspapers used that term even earlier. I believe that it is unlikely that the American voters are pleased to learn that even political leaders and newspapers that obviously do not sympathize with the Soviet Union or socialism are calling the man whom they entrusted with his high office a warmonger. Indeed, that term applied to President Reagan reflects the emerging consensus of the international public on the performance of the American President and the corresponding in America's standing in the eyes of the entire world.

The extradorinary pronouncements made in recent weeks by the White House are obviously aimed, among other things, at terrorizing Congress into accepting the unprecedented allocations for the Pentagon's needs insisted upon by Ronald Reagan and Caspar Weinberger. There is no doubt at all that the aim of Mr Reagan's military program is to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union at all costs. A new round of the arms race is bound to inflict a great deal of hardship on ordinary Americans, and a crippled development of American industry oriented toward military production may jeopardize the stability of the American economy for decades to come.

The men in the White House today are unable to draw the most elementary lessons from postwar history. One of the chief objectives pursued by American administrations that have held office over the postwar period was to gain military superiority over the Soviet Union and retain it. To reach this objective American administrations have thrown hundreds of billions of dollars into the bottomless pit of the arms race, and these billions of dollars were taken out of taxpayers' pockets. Americans today are still told that the Soviet Union is superior in arms, that America is lagging behind, and that the only way to catch up with the Russians is to spend on arms mind-boggling sums.

We have said on many occasions that claims about a Soviet threat to the United States do not have a leg to stand on. We have quoted facts to demonstrate that there is a parity of forces between the Soviet Union and the United States today. Neither side is superior to the other. But right now I would like to draw your attention to another side of that issue. By scaring the American public with what is termed Soviet superiority the administration is actually acknowledging that the trillions of dollars spent over many years on arms have been squandered, and the United States has not gain military superiority over the Soviet Union. The question is why Ronald Reagan should succeed where his predecessors failed. Yuriy Andropov has made several statements to make it abundantly clear that the Soviet Union has every means at its disposal to prevent the United States from becoming superior and that this country will make use of its potential if it is forced to do so.

The experience of the past decades suggests that the Soviet stand rests on a solid basis. Now what then is sustaining the illusions of the American Administration for the sake of which it is demanding more entirely senseless sacrifices of the American people?

The answer to that question was given recently by a prominent American scientist, Professor (Cohen). In a big article he analyzed the origin of the phenomenon which he considers as Mr Reagan's Sovietophobia. He came to the following conclusion: The actual source of Washington's Sovietophobia is in that as opposed to other countries the United States has still not recognized that the Soviet Union is a world power, whether America likes it or not, and that the Soviet Union has corresponding interests and say in international affairs.

Yet indeed the U.S. Administration cannot reconcile itself with that reality absolutely independent of Mr Reagan's will. For some reason the administration is still laboring under the misapprehension that it has the monopoly on strength and power, and that it is in a position to lay down the moral principles in politics in a world that will dance to its tune. A very dangerous misapprehension that, and all the more so since it is fraught with the danger of the worst catastrophe in history.

It is a fact that the Soviet Union is no less powerful than the United States, and that this country intends and is able to stay that way. We are not after any kind of superiority over any nation, nor are we trying to impose our system or views on any other nation. Washington's claims to the contrary are a big lie. In the circumstances the United States is facing the following choice: either to accept and recognize the rights and interests of the Soviet Union and seek mutually acceptable solutions to outstanding problems between the two countries, or follow a policy that has already earned Mr Reagan the unseemly title of warmonger. Every sober-minded person is aware that such a policy leads nowhere.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ASSAILS KIRKPATRICK REMARKS ON UN

PM150858 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 13 Apr 83 First Edition p 3

[A. Golts "Rejoinder": "When They Cannot Be Bothered With Manners..."]

[Text] Judith Martin, the well-known U.S. specialist in good manners, is very displeased with her fellow countrymen. Mrs Martin believes that in past 20 years they have totally forgotten all the rules of etiquette.

Well, a specialist can see these things more clearly. Especially when the behavior of many high-ranking members of the present administration, ladies included, makes it impossible to dispute this sorry diagnosis. Take Jeane Kirkpatrick, the U.S. UN representative. This lady recently informed readers that the Security Council is, it appears, the "stage" on which "political melodramas and farces" are played out, where "a lengthy procession of orators seek to isolate and humiliate their latest victim." Kirkpatrick's indignation can be explained: She cites as the victims... the United States and Israel. Not bothering to seek diplomatic formulas, Kirkpatrick announces that "the attackers, encountering no obstacles in their way, are becoming increasingly shameless." This lady includes on her list of "shameless" countries Ghana, Zimbabwe, Grenada, Vietnam and other countries. In passing, an official, the U.S. UN representative, awards them many unflattering epithets.

Kirkpatrick's above-mentioned maxims, all couched in the style characteristic of present-day U.S. diplomacy, occupied a considerable part of her article in THE NEW YORK TIMES. True, somewhere near the end Kirkpatrick remembered that she had apparently taken up her pen for an entirely specific reason: She intended to write about the Security Council sessions at which the question of U.S. aggression against Nicaragua had been discussed. She also recalled that instructions had been issued from above to make out that this discussion was... a victory for U.S. diplomacy. The White House is not having many successes right now.

One may commiserate with the poor Jeane. After all, she cannot be everywhere at once! She has been ordered to prove that "neither the United States nor Honduras was isolated on this occasion." But she herself meanwhile would so like to finally unburden herself and severely reprimand all those who oppose the U.S. will. This high-ranking lady has resolved this complex contradiction thus: She has kept all her abuse against the United Nations but has added at the end that this time everything was not the way the "shameless extremists" had planned it, but just the opposite. There was, therefore, a major diplomatic success. The result was rather incoherent. If there were indeed success in some people's eyes, then why use bad language, one asks?

After all, there is no trace of success. At the Security Council sessions the United States was totally exposed as the chief organizer of the adventure against Nicaragua. THE NEW YORK TIMES again was compelled to report through gritted teeth: "After 4 days of debates the United States was in fact isolated in the Security Council. Countries like the Netherlands, Spain and Pakistan...believe that the United States is supporting efforts to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government and assisting emigres based in Honduras." Now we can understand what so infuriated Mrs Kirkpatrick, making her forget not only good manners but also elementary common sense.

In conclusion let us again quote and expert on rules of etiquette. Answering a question about what changes there have been in manners in the capital since Reagan came to the White House, Judith Martin was succinct: "It is wrong to think that Washington has become more courteous." Said by a well-bred person. You can tell at once: not by a U.S. diplomat.

MOSCOW RADIO NOTES DEVELOPMENT OF NEW U.S. BOMB

LD172156 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2010 GMT 17 Apr 83

[From the "International Diary" program with Vitaliy Sobolev]

[Text] Judging by UPI reports, the fantasies of U.S. Government scientists, in the news agency's definition, have been very forcefully encouraged by the President's well-known speech on space weapons. They are now engaged in some sort of new research concerning a new bomb -- the electromagnetic pulse bomb. It is supposed to disturb the enemy's communication system.

Though the news agency emphasizes that its explosion will not harm people, the agency concludes by praising the possibilities the new weapon opens for U.S. attacks. Washington has not forgotten the reception its novelty, the neutron bomb, received throughout the world. Washington now tries to prove now that this is something completely different. However, the aggressive intentions are like an awl in a sack. [from Russian proverb: "One cannot hide an awl in a sack."]

USSR, PRC 'RECENTLY' RESUME BORDER TRADE

OW181347 Tokyo KYODO in English 1245 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Beijing April 18 KYODO -- Sino-Soviet border trade, suspended about 20 years due to deterioration of relations between the two countries was resumed recently, East European sources in Beijing said Monday.

The resumption of border trade between China and the Soviet Union followed the recent signing of Hailar in northern China of the fiscal 1983 border trade agreement between Dalintorg of the Soviet Union and Nei Monggol Autonomous Region of China.

Dalintorg -- In charge of export-import, coastal and border trade of Eastern Siberia and the Soviet Far East -- also signed a border trade agreement with Heilongjiang Province of China on April 10, the sources said.

According to the sources, Heilongjiang and Nei Monggol signed border trade agreements with the Soviet Union calling for 20 million to 24 million Swiss francs in trade both ways.

Under the agreements, China will export daily supplies, light industrial products and foodstuffs, while the Soviet Union will export lumber, charcoal, fertilizer, automobiles and electronic appliances.

Through the border trade negotiations conducted between China and the Soviet Union, both countries agreed to deepen mutual understanding in the border regions as well as to strengthen cooperation in trade and economic affairs, the sources said.

USSR PROPOSES NUCLEAR NON-USE PACT TO PRC

OW181139 Tokyo KYODO in English 1117 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO -- The Soviet Union has called on China to conclude a nuclear nonuse agreement for peace and security in Asia, a Japanese official disclosed Monday.

The Soviet Union disclosed this during last week's Russo-Japanese talks in Tokyo, Yoshiya Kato, chief of the Foreign Ministry's European and Oceanic Affairs Bureau, told a Diet session.

During the talks the Soviet Union proposed the conclusion of Russo-Japanese nuclear nonuse agreement on condition Japan sticks to its nonnuclear policy.

Kato did not say when the Soviet Union made such a proposal to China but diplomatic sources said the two countries might have discussed the matter during their vice foreign ministerial talks in Moscow last month.

GROMYKO RECEIVES GANDHI MESSAGE FOR ANDROPOV

LD151438 Moscow TASS in English 1405 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- Member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko received today India's Ambassador to the USSR Vishnu Kalyandasa Ahuja at his request.

The ambassador presented to the Soviet foreign minister a message from India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, addressed to the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov.

During a conversation held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, they discussed issues of the Soviet-Indian relations, as well as some of the international issues of mutual interest for the USSR and India.

DRA'S KARMAL ADDRESSES MILITARY ACADEMY

LD162020 Moscow TASS in English 1935 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] Kabul April 16 TASS -- The Army of Democratic Afghanistan is an army of a new type, which is truly revolutionary and which is equipped with a revolutionary theory, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, stressed in his speech at the military academy today. This army unites in its ranks the true patriots of their homeland and internationalists.

Describing the progress made by the country during the five years since the revolution, Babrak Karmal said that agriculture and industry had reached a qualitatively new level and that good headway had been made in the social field.

He strongly denounced the intrigues of imperialism and reaction led by the United States against revolutionary Afghanistan. The USA, he said, is not only supplying counter-revolution with conventional weapons and extending its deliveries of chemical weapons but also trains counter-revolutionary elements in Pakistani territory.

In these conditions, Babrak Karmal stated, the paramount task is to ensure the armed defence of the April revolution and the national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. The accomplishment of this historical task is the responsibility of first and foremost the Armed Forces of Afghanistan. Babrak Karmal called for strengthening the unity of the army and the people and for waging irreconcilable struggle against the enemies of the revolution.

Dwelling on certain aspects of Afghanistan's foregin policy, Babrak Karmal pointed out that a process of the political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan had begun. Here too, he stressed, extensive internationalist assistance is given us by the countries of the socialist community led by the USSR, and by all the revolutionary forces of the planet. Our cooperation with socialist countries is based on equal treaties of friendship. Relations of fraternity, friendship and cooperation with the great Soviet Union are traditional and have stood the test of time.

Our relations with developing countries, such as India, Syria, People's Yemen, Ethiopia and Libya, are also developing successfully.

GROMYKO MEETS WITH INDOCHINESE ENVOYS 16 APRIL

LD161153 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 16 TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, USSR foreign minister, has received today Ambassador of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to the USSR Hor Nam Hong, Ambassador of the Lao People's Democratic Republic to the USSR Khamta Douangthongla and Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the USSR Dinh Nho Liem.

In the course of the meeting the ambassadors briefed Andrey Gromyko, on the instructions of the leadership of their countries, on the results of the conference of foreign ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam held in Phnom Penh on April 12, on the important initiatives put forward at it to normalize the situation in Southeast Asia, restore peace and stability there and start a political dialogue between the states of Indochina and the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). It was pointed [out] that these proposals are a consistent implementation of the peaceable foreign policy of the countries of Indochina which is sealed in the decisions of their summit meeting in Vientaine in February this year.

The ambassadors said that the leaders of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam highly appreciate the Soviet Union's contribution to strengthening peace and international security, its constructive proposals in this direction.

Andrey Gromyko stressed the invariability of the principled policy pursued by the CPSU and the Soviet state of curbing the arms race and preventing a nuclear catastrophe. This policy line was specifically reaffirmed in the decisions of the 26th Congress of the CPSU, the November (1982) plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, the constructive realistic initiatives put forward in the speeches by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in the proposals contained in the Prague Political Declaration of the Political Consultative Committee and many other proposals of the Soviet Union, of the countries of the socialist community.

The Soviet Union declares its full solidarity with the constructive policy of the People's Democratic Republic and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam aimed at improving the situation and creating a climate of confidence and cooperation between all countries of Southeast Asia. The proposals drawn up at the above-mentioned foreign ministers conference of the states of Indochina in Phnom Penh deserve serious attention of all who really strive for lasting peace and stability in that region.

On its part, the Soviet Union is prepared to contribute to a settlement of the situation in Southeast Asia, and turning that region into a zone of peace, goodneighbourliness and cooperation. The USSR reaffirms the readiness expressed earlier to participate jointly with other permanent members of the UN Security Council in the guarantees of agreements which can be reached between the countries of Indochina and the ASEAN member-countries.

PRAVDA SCORES U.S. ARMS DELIVERIES TO THAILAND

PM151052 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 83 First Edition p 5

[Veniamin Shurygin "Commentator's Column": "Oil on the Fire"]

[Text] The United States is hastily increasing arms deliveries to Thailand.

American military transport aircraft recently delivered to Bangkok the first consignments of Redeye missiles, 155mm howitzers, ammunition and military equipment. The Pentagon is carrying out these actions to the accompaniment of a noisy propaganda campaign about a supposed "threat to Thailand's security" posed by the People's Republic of Kampuchea, whose Armed Forces together with Vietnamese volunteer units are conducting operations to clear the country's territory of Pol Pot's men and other reactionaries.

The facts, however, attest that it is precisely under cover of Thai artillery that bandits from among the emigre rabble are penetrating Kampuchean territory and that it is precisely the Thai authorities which have sent jet aircraft to bomb border regions of the People's Republic of Kampuchea. The talk of some sort of "threat" to Thailand is just an excuse which Washington needs to maintain tension in relations among the countries of Southeast Asia.

The present arms deliveries to Thailand are being carried out within the framework of the overall U.S. strategy in Asia which, in addition to strengthening the direct American military presence, provides for its partners' increased military activity on the continent. Thailand is allocated an important place among them. It is one of the first on the list of recipients of American military aid in Southeast Asia. Ships of the U.S. 7th Fleet have received practically a permanent pass to Thai ports. Talks were held in Bangkok recently on the stockpiling of American arms in that region. The Pentagon is engaged in regaining its mothballed military bases on Thai territory.

In recent decades the peoples of Indochina have made innumerable sacrifices in the struggle for freedom and independence. They are vitally interested in peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia and strive for this on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual respect and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. However, it is precisely this that the United States wants to prevent. Pouring oil on the fire and blowing up conflict situations in every possible way, it would like to continue fishing in troubled waters, following the colonialist principle of "divide and rule."

BRIEFS

LAO DELEGATION IN ALMA-ATA -- A delegation composed of a number of members of the Lao-Soviet Friendship Society is on a visit to Alma-Ata, the capital of Kazakh SSR. The delegation is lead by (Savan Chanspirk), deputy chairman of the Lao Committee for Safeguarding Peace and deputy of the Lao Supreme People's Council. The guests have been received by the Kazakh Supreme Soviet and have become acquainted with the members of the Kazakh Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries. They have visited the [name indistinct] complex in Alma-Ata, the Kazakh exhibition of national products and the children's park. They have also familiarized themselves with sites of interest in the Kazakh capital. [Text] [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 12 Apr 83 GF]

REPORTAGE ON ROMANOV DELEGATION'S BERLIN ACTIVITIES

Meeting With Verner

LD152036 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Apr 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] A friendly meeting took place in Berlin today between the CPSU delegation headed by Comrade Romanov, which is participating in the international scientific conference devoted to Karl Marx, and Comrade Verner, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee. The meeting was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Honecker Meeting; Reception

LD162155 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Apr 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Today Comrade Honecker received the CPSU delegation led by Comrade Romanov, which had taken part in the work of the international conference dedicated to the memory of Karl Marx. The meeting took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

In the evening, on behalf of the SED Central Committee, a reception was held in Berlin in honor of those taking part in the international scientific conference. The guest were warmly welcomed by Erich Honecker. A reply speech was delivered by Comrade Romanov.

Further on Meeting; Departure

LD162149 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] Today in Berlin Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received the CPSU delegation headed by Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo. The meeting, which took place in an atmosphere of fraternal unity and firm friendship, was also attended by Zimyanin and Rusakov, secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee, and Axen and Mittag, members of the Politburo and secretaries of the SED Central Committee.

The head of the CPSU delegation conveyed fraternal greetings from Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Erich Honecker asked that cordial greetings be conveyed to Comrade Andropov. In the course of the conversation, a high value was placed on the extraordinarily extensive participation in the work of the conference by delegations from communist and workers' parties, revolutionary democratic parties and national liberation movements, socialist and social democratic parties. The course of this conference is clear proof of the vitality of Marxism-Leninism in the contemporary fight for maintaining peace and social progress.

It was emphasized that the defense of peace as mankind's greatest possession corresponds to the fundamental, common interests of all who, whether having the same or differing philosophical or political convictions, support peace and more just social living conditions for people. The CPSU and SED are steadfast in their support for the further, all-round strengthening of real socialism, its power for the purposes of preserving peace and benefiting people.

Comrade Romanov told of the persistent work of the Soviet people in fulfilling the decisions of the 26th party congress and the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum on measures to perfect the developed socialist society of the USSR.

Comrade Honecker spoke of the initiatives of Communists, and all workers in the GDR in Karl Marx Year, directed toward fulfilling the decisions of the 10th SED party congress. He emphasized that the SED will continue to comprehensively strengthen and deepen the fraternal alliance and cooperation with the party and land of Lenin in resolving the great tasks of the 1980's.

Today the CPSU delegation headed by Comrade Romanov left Berlin for home. At the invitation of the SED Central Committee it had been taking part in the international scientific conference Karl Marx and the Present Day -- the Struggle for Peace and Social Progress.

Report on Moscow Arrival

LD162301 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2204 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Excerpts] The international scientific conference Karl Marx and the Present Day -- the Struggle for Peace and Social Progress has ended in Berlin. 145 delegations from countries of all continents took part in it.

The CPSU Central Committee delegation left Berlin today.

The delegation was met at Moscow airport by Comrade Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

RYZHKOV MEETS WITH CEAUSESCU IN BUCHAREST

PM180846 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Meeting in Bucharest"]

[Text] Bucharest, 16 Apr -- Today N. Ceausescu, general secretary of the RCP and president of Romania, received N. I. Ryzhkov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who has come to Bucharest on a working visit at the RCP Central Committee's invitation.

Meetings were also held with I. Verdet, member of the RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee and secretary of the RCP Central Committee. There was a discussion of questions of further intensifying economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

Taking part in the talks were N. V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; O.A. Chukanov,CPSU Central Committee deputy section chief; and Ye. M. Tyazhelnikov, USSR ambassador to Romania; and M. Dobrescu, secretary of the RCP Central Committee; and I. Totu, deputy prime minister of the Romanian Government; both candidate members of the RCP Central Committee Political Executive Committee.

The meetings and talks took place in a businesslike, friendly atmosphere.

FRG CHANCELLOR KOHL'S VISIT TO U.S. VIEWED

Sakharov Commentary

DW151025 Moscow in German to Germany 1600 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Valentin Sakharov commentary: "Kohl's Second Visit as Chancellor to Reagan"]

[Text] This afternoon Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl left for Washington for an exchange of opinions with U.S. President Ronald Reagan. He went to Washington prior to his government statement, the first government statement following the Bundestag elections, scheduled for 4 May. This trip to the United States is Chancellor Kohl's second meeting with Reagan, since becoming Chancellor of the FRG. In November last year already, shortly after he had superseded Helmut Schmidt, Kohl discussed some foreign and economic policy issues in Washington. At the time the exchange of views was marked by mutual statements of friendship.

According to top Bonn government circles the chancellor's talks in Washington this time will focus on intermediate-range missiles, East-West trade, and the world economy. This time the oposition SPD, which has expressed concern about an obvious tendency of the U.S. Government to act against German interests, calls upon Chancellor Kohl to exert a direct influence on Reagan's policy.

According to Government spokesman Diether Stolze the Geneva negotiations on intermediate-range missiles will be the central topic of the visit. The U.S. Administration holds the view that it will be easier to deploy intermediate-range missiles in the FRG after Chancellor Kohl was confirmed by the voters on 6 March. It is assumed in Bonn that Chancellor Kohl and the Federal Government sill stand by NATO's dual decision regarding the missile issue. This means that the second Kohl-Genscher Government assesses the NATO decision in the same way as the SPD leadership which to date has erroneously been trying to see this decision as an instrument for disarmament.

So the SPD leadership as well as Helmut Kohl's second government encourage U.S. President Reagan in his view that Washington's course in the Geneva talks is correct. It is as if the SPD leadership and the government parties in Bonn do not know that the U.S. position in Geneva blocks the negotiations, and standing by this position and by NATO's decision on intermediate-range missiles will only lead to the deployment of these missiles in the FRG and thus to a new round of the nuclear arms race.

The FRG chancellor's meeting with the U.S. President therefore looks like a meeting of members of an insurance company against arms reduction and disarmament and thus against the ensuring of peace in Europe. It remains a mystery what West German problems the Bonn Government wants to resolve with this policy.

Regarding East-West trade, it must be said that the second Kohl-Genscher government has not failed to see that the Reagan Government will restrict East-West trade further. During his first trip to the United States in November last year Chancellor Kohl in some fields of economic relations with the East had adopted the restrictive U.S. course. If the Americans now succeed in putting additional restrictions on top of that, then this will mean that Washington continues to strive for undermining the FRG's trade agreements with the East.

According to West German press reports, some people in Bonn -- however, not only in the SPD leadership -- suspect that President Reagan wants to pursue this course also at the forthcoming economic summit of the largest Western industrial countries.

So the talks in Washington which will also deal with a number of controversial issues will obviously be marked by growing American pressure on Bonn visitors to the United States.

Kohl-Reagan Talks Highlighted

LD161236 Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] Washington April 16 TASS -- Talks were held at the White House between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and West German Federal Chancellor Helmust Kohl, who made a one-day official visit to the U.S. capital.

They discussed bilateral relations, international problems, including East-West relations, the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, the NATO plans to deploy new American medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe, and the progress of the Madrid meeting of representatives of the states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Addressing journalists after the talks, the U.S. President said that the United States was not going to abandon plans to deploy 572 American cruise and Pershing II missiles in European territory.

In his turn, the West German chancellor, after expressing "keen interest for reaching agreement with the East", declared that, if no accords are attained in Geneva, the FRG will honour its "promise" concerning the stationing of U.S. missiles in its territory, despite the protests of the West European, including West German, public.

Thus, both sides fialed to display the desire to steer the talks in Geneva out of the impasse, in which they have found themselves through the fault of the United States, which would meet the interests of curbing the arms race, enhancing peace, and lessening the risk of the outbreak of war.

Certain contradictions between the United States and Western Europe were manifest when Reagan and Kohl discussed trade and economic questions connected with preparations for the conference of the leaders of seven major capitalist countries in Williamsburg. Reagan admitted that the Western economy had run into difficulties and that it was essential to iron out differences in trade between the United States and Europe and to avoid resorting to protectionist measures. U.S. official circles acknowledged that obvious contradictions existed between the United States and Europe also in questions of East-West trade. The United States, as is known, is insisting that it partners curtail trade and economic relations with the USSR, although this runs counter to the interests of Washington's allies and arouses their indignation.

SOVIET REACTION TO FRENCH EXPULSIONS CONTINUES

Cosmonaut Shatalov Interviewed

LD151030 Moscow TASS in English 1023 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- "Perplexity and indignation -- I can hardly describe in any other way my own reaction and the feelings of all Soviet people in connection with the recent move of the French authorities", Soviet cosmonaut, Air Force Lieutenant-General Vladimar Shatalov, said in a TASS interview.

"I speak of perplexity, because I cannot possibly make myself believe that the French people really wanted something like this to happen.

"I have visited this beautiful country more than once, and I have seen for myself the cordial and friendly attitude of the ordinary Frenchmen to us, Soviet people. I must say that we entertain the same friendly feelings toward them".

"Cooperation between the Soviet Union and France has taken deep and strong roots", Vladimir Shatalov went on to say. "During the Second World War our pilots shoulder to shoulder fought the common enemy. The recent space mission in which French citizen Jean-Loup Chretien took part has become a vivid manifestation of good relations between the two countries."

"I speak of indignation because with their actions the French authorities are trying to cast aspertions on the open, honest and peaceful policy of our country. One gets the impression that there forces at work bent on straining relations between the Soviet Union and France at any cost".

"This is an exercise in futility. The French people will be able to make out who needed that and why. No one will be able to blot out the dear memories of the past or to overshadow the good results of our cooperation".

'Indignation' Expressed

LD151145 Moscow TASS in English 1050 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 15 Tass -- "I'm deeply convinced that relations of mutual understanding, trust and cooperation between our countries serve the interests of peace, while their disruption plays into the hands of opponents of detente." These are lines from a letter to TASS by composer Nikita Bogoslovskiy, member of the Presidential Board of the USSR-FRANCE Society, which reflects indignation over the arbitrary action of the French authorities with regard to Soviet citizens who worked in France.

"A provocative rumpus has been raised in the country which is linked with us by many years of friendship and cooperation, a campaign of anti-Soviet hysteria is being whipped up." Bogoslovskiy writes, "Such actions are in glaring contradiction with the good relations which traditionally exist between our countries and peoples."

Workers Write Critical Letter

LD151151 Moscow TASS in English 0934 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- "We know from our personal experiences gained during our meetings with French specialists and workers that the people of that country have feelings of friendship and respect for the USSR and the Soviet people," V. Shutov, B. Yegorov, A. Litvinov and V. Nesterov, workers from a milling machinetool-making factory in the city of Gorky, write in their letter to TASS.

"However," they point out, "there are forces in France who are opposed to the development of good relations between our countries. Their activity if encouraged by U.S. imperialists. The hand of the overseas instigators who are doing their best to disrupt our good contacts is clearly seen in the outrageous anti-Soviet campaign in France.

This is what we, Soviet workers think about all that: "The arbitrary actions undertaken by the French authorities do not benefit relations between our countries. This should be borne in mind by those who organize and broaden the noisy anti-Soviet campaign."

The Gorky milling machinetool-making factory supplies its products to many countries. The factory has for many years maintained business links with the Soviet-French joint-stock society Stanko-France. Workers from the factory often go to France to adjust Soviet-made machinetools and train French specialists to operate them.

SOLOMENTSEV MEETING WITH UK'S WILSON NOTED

LD151423 Moscow TASS in English 1131 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- Alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation Mikhail Solomentsev met today with Harold Wilson, president of the Great Britain-USSR Association, former British prime minister, and members of the association delegation.

Mikhail Solomentsev, during the friendly conversation, described how the Soviet people are implementing plans of peaceful construction and how the USSR is working for peace in Europe and throughout the world. Special attention was given to the constructive initiatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist states.

Importance of cooperation between various countries, including their public forces, with a view to improving the international situation and averting the war menace was noted during the conversation. Development of Soviet-British relations on a sound basis would be of great significance in this respect.

Harold Wilson and members of his delegation came out in favour of a policy of dialogues which should replace in international relations the polemics, and in favour of developing traditional versatile ties between their country and the Soviet Union. It was stated that the Great Britain-USSR Association is seeking to do what it can to foster their ties, and the opinion was expressed that the delegation's visit will become another step forward along this road.

USSR-NORWEGIAN COMMISSION MOSCOW SESSION OPENS

LD181002 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] The 10th jubilee session of the intergovernmental Soviet-Norwegian commission on economic, industrial and scientific and technical cooperation opened in Moscow today. Head of the Soviet delegation Vladimir Nikolayevich Sushkov, deputy minister for foreign trade, read greetings to the session participants from Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. Head of the Norwegian delegation Arne Skauge, minister of trade and shipping, read greetings from Norwegian Prime Minister Kare Willoch. Matters relating to the state of and prospects for trade and economic relations, and industrial and scientific-technical links between the two countries are being discussed at the session.

LUNS REMARKS, U.S. 'PLANS' FOR AUSTRIA CRITICIZED

DW172055 Moscow in German to Austria 1800 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Ladies and gentlemen, our listener Hans Peter Meier from Vienna writes: The recent statement by Luns that Austria would not even be able to withstand an attack for 5 days have produced great annoyance in Austria.

Why do NATO politicians presume to have the right to interfere in neutral Austria's affairs? SPOE secretary Fritz Marsch rightly pointed out to Luns that Austria is not a NATO member. Tamara Kulikova comments on this subject:

Our listeners probably are aware that the statement by Luns is not an isolated case but a continuation of a number of threats and recommendations toward Austria which have been voiced often enough in recent years. Let us remind you of the advice given by the Pentagon 2 years ago that Austria purchase interceptors which, the Pentagon said, would strengthen the United States' national security and would be a new important element of West Europe's defense. Last year influential Pentagon officials said that although Austria was not a vacuum it was a cold weather area in Europe. It did not have enough means of intimidation and therefore should buy missiles in addition to interceptors.

Such statements have always led to extremely negative (?reactions) of Austria's Government, political parties and social segments as well as the mass media which assessed them as a gross interference in the neutral republic's internal affairs. The alleged concern about Austria's security revealed itself to the Austrian public as horrible truth when operational plan No 10 [word indistinct] of the U.S. command in Europe became known recently.

The targets envisaged for U.S. nuclear flights are the gas pipelines from Vienna to Linz, [words indistinct] and Donawitz, while all civilian and military airfields, bridges, tunnels as well as railroad and highway junctions are considered as suitable objects of diversion and sabotage. According to the U.S. plan the most important metallurgical plants and coal mines [words indistinct] also are to be put out of operation.

One should think the goals are clear. Regrettably, however, there were people in Austria who were enthusiastic about the NATO general's statements. Austria's Army Commander General (Bernaduna) who in the past had advocated nuclear weapons for the Army said that following the parliamentary elections he would ask the government to accelerate the decision-making process on the purchase of 24 Mirage V interceptor aircraft. Retired General (Konda) also demanded that missiles be purchased. The generals do not mind the fact that these statements are contrary to the provisions of the state treaty which is the basic document laying down Austria's domestic and foreign policy.

TURKISH PREMIER ON RELATIONS WITH USSR CITED

LD151832 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1420 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Istanbul, 13 Apr (TASS) -- Maintaining good-neighborly relations with neighboring countries, the Soviet Union first and foremost, is one of the main aims of Turkish foreign policy, Prime Minister of Turkey Ulent Bulusu declared at a press conference held here today. One of our aims, he said, is to maintain and develop economic cooperation with the Soviet Union. Recent contacts made between our two countries at various levels have fostered the strengthening of the foundation on which bilateral Turkish-Soviet relations are based.

Describing Turkey's relations with the Western community, the prime minister acknowledged that his country "has not always met with mutual understanding." In this connection he criticized the protectionist policy of the "Common Market" countries toward Turkish exports, which, he said, is leading to a deterioration in Turkey's foreign trade balance.

ISRAELI THREAT TO ATTACK SYRIA AIDS REAGAN PLAN

LD161704 Moscow World Service in English 1300 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Alarming reports keep coming from Lebanon. In the Al-Biqa' Valley, the Israeli troops are shelling the positions of the Syrian contingent, which is part of the inter-Arab peacekeeping force in Lebanon. Israel is amassing its troops on the Lebanese-Syrian border. More from our observer, Valentin Lapin. This is what he writes:

War clouds have again gathered over the Middle East. Israel threatens to attack another Arab country, Syria. The chief of staff of the Israeli Army, General Levi, has already reported that his troops are in a state of preparedness and need only a signal to launch the attack. The probability of this attack has noticeably grown over the last week. It is linked with the failure of another attempt to impose on the Arab countries President Reagan's Middle East plan. The plan is described as the only way to peace in the region. The Arabs are told that if they fail to accept this plan the situation will worsen.

Israel threatens to use arms received from the United States. It intends to launch another aggression to force the Arab countries to put up with the American-Israeli conditions of such a settlement in the Middle East. The Reagan plan ignores such crucial points as the establishment of an independent Palestinian state and the political self-determination of the Palestinian people. The Arab countries are offered to strike separate deals with Israel behind the backs of the Palestinians and their only authentic and legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization. In short, the Reagan plan actually aims at splitting the Arab countries, which reaffirmed at their top-level meeting in Fes last year their support for the PLO and the right of the Palestinians to have a state of their own. Among the Arab countries, Syria is one of the leaders of the campaign against the American-Israeli scheming. This is why it has been chosen as a target of another aggression.

Developments in the Middle East indicate that the Palestinian question is a crucial question in the Middle East conflict. It must be solved in a just way if an all embracing settlement is to be achieved in the region. The march of events has alraedy shown that it is impossible to ignore the Palestine Liberation Organization as a political force and a full-fledged representative of the 4 million Palestinian people. Attempts to bring pressure on other Arab countries through a showdown of strength are doomed to failure.

Those who are now aiming their swords against Syria should know that the people of Syria are not isolated. On 17 April Syria will be observing her national holiday, the 37th anniversary since the evacuation of foreign troops from her territory. The Soviet people wish the people of Syria every success and prosperity and express their solidarity with their efforts to frustrate the imperialists' plans in the region and ensure national independence.

COMMENT ON SYRIAN NATIONAL DAY, ISRAELI THREAT

LD171844 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 17 Apr 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Excerpt] The people of Syria are today celebrating their national holiday, the 37th anniversary of the evacuation of foreign troops.

[Correspondent Leonid Rassadin, identified on screen caption, reports:] Thirty-seven years have passed since that memorable day in 1946 when the last foreign soldier was banished from Syrian territory. It was here, in the central districts of Damascus, that all the people rejoiced. [shots of Damascus streets are shown] It was preceded by an uprising of the people who cast off the fetters of colonialism. Now, of course, much has changed. Here in this square, there is a towering monument to the Syrian fighters for freedom and independence. The working people of Syria are today engaged in creative labor. The capital, its external aspect, is changing all the time. Placards hang everywhere in Damascus: Damascus welcomes the heroes of the resistance! The staunchness of Syria is the guarantee for liberation of the Arab lands!

The threat of Israeli attack looms once more over the country. The Syrian Arab Republic is resolutely in favor of a just settlement in the Middle East. This country is the chief obstacle on Tel Aviv's path of implementing its aggressive plans. All this enrages the enemies of the Arab peoples. That is why Israel, encouraged by the Reagan administration, is intensively preparing to carry out a bandit strike against Syria. The Damascus newspapers are presently full of alarming reports of Israeli troop concentrations in the Al-Biqa' Valley in eastern Lebanon, near the Syrian border. However, it is stressed here that no one will be able to break Syria.

MOSCOW FRIENDSHIP MEETING MARKS SYRIAN HOLIDAY

PM152209 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Public Meeting"]

[Text] A public meeting devoted to the Syrian Arab Republic's national day was held in Moscow 13 April. Soviet people expressed solidarity with the struggle waged by the Syrian people and the other Arab peoples to establish a just and lasting peace in the Near East.

The meeting was attended by Syrian Ambassador to the USSR M.A. Halabi and a delegation from the Society for Arab Syrian-Soviet Friendship.

This meeting marked the beginning of a Soviet-Syrian Friendship Festival in our country. It will be held in Moscow and Armenia. The program includes evening events, concerts and exhibitions which will familiarize the Soviet people with the Syrian people's life and with their culture and arts.

U.S. VIOLATING ALGERIAN HOSTAGE ACCORD WITH IRAN

NC160814 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1700 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Unattributed commentary from "The World Today" feature]

[Text] The U.S. Treasury Department recently announced that some of the mutual financial claims between Iran and the City Bank of New York have been resolved. The two sides have agreed on the mutual payments stated in the famous Algiers Agreements.

However, it should be pointed out that, in general, financial relations between Iran and the United States have not been ironed out as they should have been. As you know, the Algiers Agreements state that all of Iran's deposits, which are being kept in U.S. banks, should have been returned immediately following the release of the employees of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran who had been taken hostage on charges of spying in your country. The U.S. diplomatic spies were released a long time ago.

They were pampered by Washington officials and a number of them even received state medals and decorations. But 35 U.S. banks, and especially the Rockefeller and Morgan banks, are still delaying the payment of Iran's deposits. Worse than this, more than 2,000 U.S. companies and citizens have filed claims against Iran in courts and are demanding compensation from your country for damage allegedly suffered as a result of the revolution. Among these people are a number of the employees of the former U.S. Embassy in Tehran who had been taken as hostages on charges of spying.

It is difficult to envisage an impudence greater than this, because everybody knows that U.S. companies and individuals as well as that country's shrewd businessmen who during the shah's regime had filled Iran like a swarm of locusts pocketed astronomical wealth at the expense of the Iranian people. For example, we can refer to the U.S. contracting engineers and companies which started the so-called construction boom in your country. Of course you remember how perfunctorily and unconscientiously these U.S. contractors worked in Iran. The best proof of this is the roads they built and which with the first rainfall washed away and vanished, as well as the roof of the Mehrabad Airport building which caved in. Moreover, many of the government buildings in Tehran and in other cities which they should have built are partially finished. Therefore, about what compensation to U.S. companies can one speak of today? On the contrary, the U.S. companies are those that owe a large debt to the Iranian people, which they have not yet paid. Therefore, the claims made by Iran according to the Algiers Agreements against the United States are not only legal and just but also extremely moderate. However, as for the U.S. Administration, by postponing the payment of Iran's deposits to your country it is violating the commitments which it has undertaken.

SOVIET AEROFLOT FLIGHTS TO TEHRAN TO RESUME

NC160700 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 15 Apr 83

[From the "In the Soviet Union" program]

[Excerpts] Recently another international flight of the Soviet civil aviation company, Aeroflot, was inaugurated. This route has linked Moscow with Buenos Aires, the capital city of Argentina. Ivan Vasin, deputy minister of civil aviation, will talk to us in our program today.

Ivan Vasin said: The Soviet Union has agreements on air links with 100 countries of the world. Each year the international flight network of Soviet civil aviation expands.

In the near future Aeroflot flights between Moscow and Tehran will be resumed. Ivan Vasin added that in order to be able to cope with the expansion of commercial, economic and other relations and the growing rate of tourism between the Soviet Union and foreign countries, in the current season on many of the international routes medium-capacity aircraft will be replaced with the 350-seat IL-86 airbuses. These Soviet airplanes will fly from Moscow to Berlin, Paris, Madrid, Frankfurt-am-Mein and Delhi.

UN COMMITTEE ON NAMIBIA HOLDS USSR CONSULTATIONS

'Exchange of Opinions'

LD141949 Moscow TASS in English 1920 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 14 TASS -- A mission of the U.N. Council on Namibia stayed in the Soviet Union on April 10 - 14. The mission was headed by deputy chairman of the council, Permanent Representative of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia at the United Nations Ignac Golob. On the mission were representatives of SWAPO and council member-countries -- Bangladesh, Zambia, the USSR.

The mission was received by Vice-President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Inamzhon Usmankhodzhayev, Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Leonid Ilichev, other officials.

An exchange of opinions on questions of the early granting of independence to Namibia was held in the course of conversations. It was noted that the policy of racism and apartheid, which is conducted by the Republic of South Africa towards the Namibian people, the use of Namibia's territory for aggression against Angola and other "front-line" states are of great danger to independent African countries and create the threat to universal peace and international security.

From the Soviet side it was emphasized that South Africa's continued occupation of Namibia and the increased aggressiveness of the racist regime towards neighbouring countries are linked with the course of the imperialist circles, above all the Reagan administration, the course of heightening international tension, arms race, confrontation in all parts of the world, including in the south of Africa.

Both sides pledged full support for the national-liberation struggle waged by the people of Namibia, headed by their sole and genuine representative -- the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO).

The sides reaffirmed the mutual viewpoint that Namibia is under direct responsibility of the United Nations Organization, and declared for undelayed granting of independence to that country on the basis of compliance with the U.N. decisions on the Namibian issue in their aggregate, including Resolution 435 of the Security Council. Both sides firmly turned down the attempts of the Republic of South Africa and the United States to link compliance with the U.S. decisions in Namibia with withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

With the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa sabotaging peace settlement of the Namibian problem, the sides reaffirmed the right of the people of Namibia to use all forms of struggle for independence, including armed struggle.

Denounced in the course of conversations was collaboration in Namibia between Western countries, transnational corporations and the Pretoria regime, which is a grave obstacle to attainment of independence by Namibia and a gross violation of the U.N. resolutions on sanctions against the Republic of South Africa. The activities of the so-called "contact group" were criticized. That group does not promote settlement of the Namibian problem, but let it into an impasse.

The Soviet side expressed full support for the U.N. Council on Namibia, aimed at an early and fai. solution of the Namibia question, and greeted an international conference in support of the Namibian people's struggle for independence to be held in Paris in April.

The mission of the U.N. Council on Namibia highly appraised the Soviet Union's consistent and firm stand on the question of independence of Namibia. Both sides firmly declared in support of the struggle of the Namibian people waged under SWAPO's guidance and "the Frontline" states in opposing South Africa's aggressive course.

Press Conference Held

LD132029 Moscow TASS in English 1843 GMT 13 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 13 TASS -- Namibia's illegal occupation by the racist South African Regime, the continuing aggressions from South African territory against the neighbouring states pose a serious threat to peace and security both in Africa and the world. This was said by vice-president of the UN Council for Namibia, Yugoslavia's chief delegate with the United Nations Ignac Golob. He spoke at a press conference for Soviet and foreign newsmen in Moscow today.

The UN Council for Namibia mission, led by him, is now in the Soviet Union for consultations on Namibia, as well as on problems having to do with the upcoming international conference in support for the struggle of the Namibian people for independence. The conference is to be held in Paris from 25 to 29 April under a UN aegis.

He expressed the confidence that the conference in Paris will contribute to a stronger support by the international community for the struggle of the Namibian people for independence. The conference is called upon to reaffirm the Namibians' right to use all the means open to them in fighting for the independence and territorial integrity of their country. The well-known UN resolutions on Namibia, Ignac Golob said, are the only basis for a successful, peaceful settlement of the Namibian problem.

The international community, he said, must provide all-round assistance and support for SWAPO as the only lawful spokesman for the Namibian people, as well as for the frontline African states which have become victims of continuing aggressions launched by South African racists.

It is our view, the vice-president of the UN Council for Namibia stressed, that the presence of Cuban troops in Angola has nothing in common with the Namibian problem, and that is why we reject all attempts to link them.

Questioned by newsmen, the deputy permanent representative of SWAPO at the United Nations, Hinyangerva Plus Ashiki, said that the Western propaganda distorts the actual state of affairs in Namibia. What is going on there is not the struggle between East and West or between two ideologies. The Namibian people is waging its struggle against the colonial occupation of its country by South African racists. This is a legitimate struggle, Ashiki stressed.

SHULTZ VIEW ON SOVIET ARMS IN NICARAGUA ASSAILED

LD162125 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1030 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, 16 Apr (TASS) -- TASS political observer Nikolay Chigir writes: What tricks will the Washington leaders not resort to now in their attempts to justify their aggressive course against Nicaragua, aimed at overthrowing the revolutionary government of that country and restoring there the domination of American imperialism. When it turned out that they are literally with their backs to the wall, thanks to the incontrovertible evidence that it is none other but the Reagan administration that executed the planning and preparations for and is now waging a real war against Nicaragua, in order to cover up their dirty work they disseminate concoctions, slander and all kinds of false stories.

U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, according to NBC, during his Dallas speech went as far as to assert that Nicaragua is alleging turning into...a base for Soviet nuclear arms. The provocative nature of this malicious concoction is obvious.

Let us say directly that it cannot be easy for the head of the U.S. foreign policy department in his striving to slough off the responsibility for the aggression against Nicaragua, if he has to resort to such lies. The aim of this fabrication, stressed Thomas Borge, member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and Nicaraguan minister of internal affairs, is to prepare the ground for a further increase of American supplies of weapons to the El Salvador and Honduras regimes, and to step up the military support given by the United States to Somozan groupings.

Ridiculing the false assertions by the Washington administration about the "militarization" of Nicaragua and about its being turned into a "Soviet base" allegedly threatening the United States, Torricelli, member of the House of Representatives of the American Congress, who has just returned from a trip to Nicaragua as part of a group of American congressmen, stated: "The only thing we saw were three Soviet helicopters, which were used during the visit to Nicaragua by Pope John Paul II, as well as during the visit by members of our delegation."

One must say that Secretary of State G. Shultz, carried away by hatred for the Nicaraguan revolution, like Mrs Kirkpatrick, who represents the United States at the United Nations, not only launches into fabrications in order to camouflage intervention in Nicaragua, but unintentionally gives himself away by acknowledging that the armed brigandage carried out by the Somozan thugs is work done at the hands of Washington. Thus at a press conference on 12 April he admitted that the United States is on the side of those forces which are trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan Government. Moreover, he characterized those forces as being "in favor of democracy". That's how the Washington leaders now understand democracy! For them "fighters for democracy" means stooges of the former butcher of the Nicaraguan people, Somoza, the most inverterate criminals, murderers and aggressors. And it is in the support of these murderers, speaking in Mrs Kirkpatrick's words, who echoes Secretary of State Schultz, that the present Washington administration sees its "moral duty."

U.S. IN NICARAGUA COMPARED WITH BAY OF PIGS

LD152158 Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- TASS commentator Ruslan Knyazev writes: Socialist Cuba is marking yet another anniversary of the historic victory at Playa Giron. In April 1961 the fighting men of the revolutionary armed forces of the republic and the people's militia routed very quickly the American mercenaries who had invaded Cuba. The failure of the intervention prepared by the Central Intelligence Agency of the United States became the first major defeat of imperialism in the Western Hemisphere in history.

Already more than two decades separate us from that memorable event. But today it is as relevant as ever because now, on orders from the White House, the Central Intelligence Agency has again launched an intervention of its mercenaries in the Western Hemisphere, this time in Nicaragua. The American specialists on interference in the affairs of sovereign states continue to use their old methods. It appears that the bitter lessons of Playa Giron have not been learned by the people in authority in Washington.

Suffice it to recall only a few of the well-known facts. In 1961 the invasion of Cuba by the hired bands of counter-revolutionaries was preceded by the barbarous bombing of populated localities on the island by planes sent by the CIA. The invasion of Nicaragua by large formations of Somocistas trained and armed by the United States is now being accompanied by numerous acts of terror by these counter-revolutionary bands against the peaceful population.

The criminal aggression by the American mercenaries against Nicaragua, just as in its time the landing at Playa Giron, is now being portrayed by Washington's propaganda as a "civil war" and the killers from Somoza's "National Guard" are presented only as "champions of democracy". Contrary to obvious facts the White House stubbornly refuses to recognise its role in the anti-Nicaraguan intervention. In April 1961 the then President of the United States had more courage and he openly admitted his responsibility for the abortive invasion of Cuba.

And now the main point: In Nicaragua today, just as in Cuba 22 years ago, the entire people rise in defense of the homeland from the imperialist aggression. For the people has excellent memories of who were Somoza and his ilk and know very well their American masters.

For this reason the CIA's criminal action in Nicaragua will end just as dismally as the landing at Playa Giron. It appears that the people in Washington have not learned anything from past lessons. But history is merciless to those who refuse to learn its useful lessons.

CUBA-USSR INTERGOVERNMENTAL GROUP MEETS IN HAVANA

Castro Receives Arkhipov, Delegation

LD151948 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1256 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow, 15 Apr (TASS) -- Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party and president of Cuba's State Council and Council of Ministers, has received I. V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, who headed the Soviet delegation at the 13th meeting of the Cuban-USSR Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation, which has ended its work in Havana.

During the conversation, particular attention was paid to analyzing the complicated international situation that has been caused by the aggressive policy of the Reagan administration against the USSR and other socialist countries, and its dangerous manifestations and consequences in Central America and the Caribbean Basin.

Havana Reportage

For Havana reportage on the 13th Session of the Cuban-USSR Intergovernmental Commission for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation and the activities of the Soviet delegation headed by First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Arkhipov, see the Cuba Section of the Latin America DAILY REPORT for 15 April.

GROMYKO MEETS GRENADA'S PRIME MINISTER BISHOP

LD151701 Moscow TASS in English 1517 GMT 15 Apr 83

[Text] Moscow April 15 TASS -- A meeting was held in the Kremlin today between member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and chairman of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the New Jewel Movement party, Prime Minister of the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada Maurice Bishop who has made a stopover in the Soviet Union on his way from the DPRK to his country. The meeting was attended by member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the New Jewel Movement party, Grenada's Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman.

During their conversation, held in the spirit of friendship and complete mutual understanding, Andrey Gromyko and Maurice Bishop expressed their concern over the continued complication of the international situation as a result of the actions of the U.S. imperialist circles, the whipping up of the arms race and the aggravation, in different parts of the world, of the pockets of tensions and conflict. In this connection, the importance was stressed on both sides of greater efforts by all peace-loving states to prevent the war threat and to improve the international climate. Andrey Gromyko spoke in detail about the peace proposals put forward by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov, as well as those contained in the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member states. Maurice Bishop praised the importance of these proposals and, on behalf of Grenada, expressed a complete support for them.

Much attention was given to the dangerous development of the situation in Central America and the Caribbean where the USA persists in pursuing its hegemonist policy which is at variance with the fundamental interests of the peoples of the countries of the region. The sides resolutely condemned imperialism's diverse schemes against Grenada, Nicaragua and other countries, and reaffirmed their support for the constructive proposals of a number of states of Latin America through the development of a dialogue on a footing of equality. On the Soviet side, understanding and approval was expressed of the efforts of Grenada and other states of the Caribbean aimed at establishing a zone of peace, independence and development in the region.

Satisfaction was expressed on both sides over the successful development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and Grenada. Andrey Gromyko declared the Soviet people's solidarity with the people of Grenada defending its freedom and independence, and the right to peaceful, creative work.

The meeting was attended by Grenada's Ambassador to the USSR Wilfred Richard Jacobs.

PRAVDA CARRIES CPSU CC MAY DAY SLOGANS

PM162101 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 83 First Edition p 1

["CPSU Central Committee Slogans for 1 May 1983" — PRAVDA headline]

[Text] 1. Long live May Day, the day of working people's international solidarity in the struggle against imperialism and for peace, democracy, and socialism!

2. Proletarians of all countries, unite!

Long live proletarian, socialist internationalism!

3. Long live Marxism-Leninism, the eternally living revolutionary international teaching!

4. Fraternal greetings to the communist and workers parties!

May the unity and cohesion of the whole world's communists strengthen!

5. May the invincible alliance of world socialism, the international proletariat, and the national liberation movement strengthen!

6. Fraternal greetings to the peoples of the socialist countries!

Long live the unity, cooperation, and cohesion of the socialist community countries and their unshakable resolve to strengthen and defend the gains of socialism and peace on earth!

7. Fraternal greetings to the peoples who have liberated themselves from the colonial yoke and have chosen the path of socialist development!

8. Fraternal greetings to the peoples waging a courageous struggle for the consolidation of national independence and for social progress!

9. Fraternal greetings to the working class of the capitalist countries!

10. Fraternal greetings to fighters for freedom, democracy, and socialism who are languishing in fascist torture chambers!

Freedom to the prisoners of imperialism and reaction!

11. Fraternal greetings to the peoples of Africa who are struggling against imperialism, colonialism, and racism and for the strengthening of political and economic independence!

Freedom to the peoples of South African and Namibia!

12. Ardent greetings to the peoples of Latin America who are struggling against imperialism and reaction and for the democratic development of their countries!

13. Peoples of the Arab countries! Serry your ranks in the struggle against Israeli aggression and imperialism's diktat!

May Soviet-Arab friendship strengthen!

14. Peoples of the world! Demand an end to Israel's aggression against the Arab countries and the immediate, full, and unconditional withdrawal of the occupiers' forces from Lebanon and all the seized Arab lands. Shame on the Israeli aggressors and their patrons!

The just cause of the Palestinian people will triumph!

Lasting and just peace for the Near East!

15. Peoples of the European countries! Prevent the deployment of new American nuclear missile weapons in Western Europe!

Peace, security, and cooperation for Europe!

16. Peoples of the Asian countries! Struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism, and hegemonism and for peace and security!

May Asia become a continent of trust and cooperation!

17. Peoples of the world! Deal a resolute rebuff to the aggressive intrigues of imperialism, militarism, and revanchism!

Let us curb the arms race, remove the threat of war and defend and deepen detente!

18. People of the whole planet! Multiply your efforts in the struggle to prevent a nuclear catastrophe!

Demand the banning of nuclear, neutron, and chemical weapons!

Peace for the world!

19. Long live the Soviet Union's peace-loving Leninist foreign policy!

Let us implement the Soviet Peace Program!

20. Glory to the great Soviet people, the builder of communism, and consistent fighter for peace!

21. Working people of the Soviet Union! Raise higher the banner of socialist competition to fulfill and overfulfill the 1983 plan and the 11th 5-Year Plan targets in terms of all indicators!

May our great multinational motherland become even stronger, richer, and more beautiful!

22. Communists! Be in the vanguard of the nationwide struggle to fulfill the historic decisions of the 26th party congress and the May and November Plenums of the CPSU Central Committee!

23. Working people of the Soviet Union! Improve the productivity, efficiency, and quality of work at every workplace!

To work in a shock fashion is our patriotic and international duty!

24. Citizens of the Soviet Union! Participate actively in the nationwide movement for economy and thrift!

The economy must be economical!

25. Working people of the Soviet Union! Create in every labor collective an atmosphere of creativity, comradely mutual assistance, and high responsibility for the fulfillment of the 5-year plan!

Strengthen organization and order and conscious communist discipline!

26. Working people of the Soviet Union! Speed up scientific and technical progress!

Persistently introduce into production the achievements of science and technology, progressive experience, and efficient forms of organizing and providing incentives for labor!

Let there be intensive development for the economy!

27. Workers of the fuel and energy complex! Increase the extraction of oil, gas, coal, and the generation of electricity!

28. Soviet metallurgists! Reliably supply the country's requirements for metal!

Raise the quality and expand the output of economical metal products!

29. Machine builders! Embody scientific and engineering thought more rapidly in new highly productive and economical machines and instruments!

Speed up the retooling of all sectors of the national economy!

30. Chemical industry workers! Supply more fully the requirements of the national economy and the population for chemical products and materials!

31. Industrial workers! Increase the production, expand the range, and improve the quality of goods for the population!

Give daily attention to the production of consumer goods!

32. Workers in transport and communications! Resolutely improve the quality and efficiency of work! Ensure the uninterrupted transportation of national economic freight and high standards of service to the population!

33. Construction and installation workers! Improve the effectiveness of capital investments!

Construct comprehensively, economically, and to a high standard on a modern technical basis! Commission projects scheduled for completion on time!

34. Workers in the agroindustrial complex! Ensure that the country is reliably provided with food and agricultural raw materials!

The implementation of the Food Program is a nationwide concern!

35. Kolkhoz members and sovkhoz workers! More actively introduce a scientifically-based system of farming! Increase the production of grain and industrial and other agricultural crops!

Make thrifty use of the land, equipment, fertilizers, manpower, and financial resources!

High quality for the spring field work!

36. Working people in agriculture! Raise in every way the productivity of livestock raising and strengthen its fodder base!

Struggle to increase the production of meat, milk, eggs, and wool!

37. Workers in trade, public catering, consumer and municipal services! Improve the quality of work and standard of service and satisfy more fully the population's demand!

38. Inventors and rationalizers! Be in the first ranks of those struggling for technical progress and the further strengthening of our motherland's economy!

39. Soviet scientists! Improve the effectiveness of research! May the alliance of science and production strengthen!

Glory to Soviet science!

40. Figures in literature and art and cultural workers! Hold high the banner of communist ideological commitment, party mindedness, and popular spirit.

Create works worthy of our great motherland!

41. Workers in the people's education! Improve the effectiveness of the tuition and communist education of the rising generation!

42. Public health workers! Improve in every way medical services for Soviet people and raise your professional skill!

43. Athletes and sportsmen! Increase the mass nature of the physical culture movement! Multiply the glory of Soviet sport!

44. Long live the Soviet trade unions, school of administration, school of economic management, school of communism!

45. Long live the Leninist Komsomol, reliable assistant and militant reserve of the Communist Party, leading detachment of young builders of communism!

46. Young men and women! Persistently master knowledge, culture and professional skill!

Be conscious fighters for the cause of Lenin, for communism!

47. Glorious veterans! Mentors of the young! Educate the young generation in the revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions of the Communist Party and the Soviet people!

48. Women of the land of the soviets! Actively participate in production and social life!

Glory to mothers!

Peace and happiness to the children of the whole world!

49. Soviet servicemen! Improve your combat and political training!

Protect vigilantly and reliably the peaceful labor of the Soviet people and the gains of the society of developed socialism!

Long live the valiant USSR Armed Forces!

50. May the unparalleled feat of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War live forever!

Eternal glory to the heroes who fell in the struggle for the honor, freedom, and independence of our motherland!

51. Long live the indissoluble international unity and fraternal friendship of the peoples of the Soviet Union — the life-giving source of the strength of our society!

52. Long live the inviolable alliance of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the people's intelligentsia!

53. Long live the Constitution of the USSR!

Long live the soviets of people's deputies -- truly democratic organs of power!

54. Long live the Leninist Communist Party of the Soviet Union!

Unity of the party and the people and loyalty to the behests of the great Lenin are the guarantee of all our victories!

55. Long live our great motherland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics!

56. Under the banner of Lenin and under the leadership of the Communist Party, onward to the victory of communism!

GOVERNMENT PANEL VIEWS CONSERVATION MEASURES

PM181047 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Attention to Nature Conservancy"]

[Text] A routine session of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission on Environmental Protection and the Rational Use of Natural Resources was held 14 April.

By way of monitoring the course of fulfillment of an earlier commission decision, the commission heard reports from the USSR Ministries of Automotive Industry, Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, Instrument Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems, and Internal Affairs and from the union republic councils of ministers on the measures being taken to prevent pollution of the atmosphere by emission from motor vehicles and other transport means. The commission instructed the USSR ministries and departments concerned and the union republic councils of ministers to increase attention to questions of improving engine design and the technical maintenance and operation of motor transport, to expand the network of control points for determining the toxicity and smoke content of motor vehicle emission, and to accelerate the production and introduction of new kinds of motor fuels and fuel components.

The session discussed reports by the AUCCTU, the Main Administration for Foreign Tourism, and the Komsomol Central Committee on nature conservancy measures within the organization of tourism. It was noted, in particular, that the intensive development of various types of tourism and excursion services in recent years was often having an adverse impact on the state of the environment. It was recommended, among immediate measures, that the activity of union republic councils of ministers, local soviets, trade union, Komsomol organs, and tourist and excursion organizations for the observance of environmental legislation when developing group and independent tourism be stepped up; and that the public also be more widely involved in providing facilities in recreation zones and areas which lie on tourist routes.

The USSR Committee for Physical Culture and Sports, the USSR Ministry of Light Industry, the USSR Ministry of Trade, and the union republic councils of ministers were instructed to examine the question of extending the range and output volume of tourist implements and equipment whose use furthers environmental protection.

A report was heard on the progress of preparations for the measures to be staged within the framework of World Environmental Protection Day, which is celebrated annually 5 June.

I.T. Novikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and commission chairman, addressed the meeting.

OFFICIALS RELIEVED OF POSTS; NEW APPOINTMENTS MADE

Deputy Ministerial Appointments

PM151118 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSVA SSSR in Russian No 7 for 1983 carries the following USSR Council of Ministers decrees on deputy ministerial changes:

Page 141: 8 February 1983 decree releasing V.P. Nikonov from his duties as USSR deputy minister of agriculture "in connection with his reassignment";

Page 142: 8 February 1983 decree releasing Yu.V. Zaytsev from his duties as first deputy minister of the gas industry "in connection with his reassignment";

Page 142: 10 February 1983 decree releasing T.G. Vekilov from his duties as deputy minister of the gas industry "in connection with his reassignment";

Page 143: 16 February 1983 decree releasing A.A. Reut from his duties as first deputy minister of the radio industry "in connection with his reassignment";

Page 143: 17 February 1983 decree releasing V.K. Rostotskiy from his duties as first deputy minister of construction, road, and municipal machine building "in connection with his retirement" and appointing Ye.V. Spiridonov in his place;

Page 144: 28 February 1983 decree releasing V.L. Sych from his duties as deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Committee on Physical Culture and Sports "in connection with his reassignment" and appointing V.S. Sysoyev in his place.

New Dnepropetrovsk Oblispolkom Chairman

WA181535 [Editorial Report] Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian on 12 March publishes on page 3 a 50-word RATAU article reporting that Yu.P. Babich, formerly Krivorog Gorkom first secretary, has been elected chairman of Dnepropetrovsk Oblispolkom.

DEPUTY FERROUS METALLURGY MINISTER CENSURED

PM131142 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 2

[Article by V. Soldatov, agent of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, under the rubric "Down With Mismanagement": "Making Promises To Avoid Action?"]

[Text] The V.I. Lenin Metallurgical Combine in Nizhniy Tagil produces many different articles. Its entire output is important for the national economy. But there is one particular product which railroad workers are especially awaiting from this enterprise: rims for mainline locomotives and electric units, the "shoes" of the pairs of wheels.

Within the system of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy the Nizhniy Tagil Combine is their main supplier. So it is all the more alarming that for 4 years now the production of rims has invariably fallen. In the year before last enterprises of the Ministry of Railways were owed 5,400 tons of rims, and last year about 7,000 tons. As a result, dozens of mainline locomotives and electric units are standing idle on the country's railroads.

Directive organs have repeatedly instructed the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy to take the necessary measures and put matters right. Nevertheless, S. Kolpakov, USSR first deputy minister of ferrous metallurgy, and A. Kugushin, deputy minister and chief of the Soyuzmetallurgprom All-Union Industrial Association, have chosen the road of promises and answers written for form only. For example, last March S. Kolpakov wrote in a report to the Council of Ministers: "The Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy is taking measures to ensure the dispatch of the full quantity of rims ordered by the Ministry of Railways in the first half of 1982. The dispatch of rims is under day-to-day monitoring." And yet the promise remained unfulfilled. The same thing happened with the assurances that were to follow.

In November last year A. Kugushin reported in a letter to the Ministry of Railways: "The combine has been instructed to ensure for November and December the planned dispatch of rims ordered by the Ministry of Railways. The dispatch is being monitored." This too was mere talk.

As regards the leaders of the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy and the Nizhniy Tagil Metallurgical Combine, they explain the failure to meet plan targets by the fact that the combine's rim mill was installed as far back as 1937, its key assemblies have for all practical purposes not been modernized, and mostly only basic replacement work has been carried out during periods of capital repairs. Furthermore, as an inspection showed, for a long time they have failed to resolve the pressing problems of the mill's reconstruction. The state plan for the 10th 5-Year Plan envisaged the reconstruction of the Nizhniy Tagil Metallurgical Combine's rim mill, with production capacities being increased by 26,000 tons of rims and commissioning in 1979.

This target was not met. The 11th 5-Year Plan planned the completion of the mill's reconstruction for 1983. Even within this time limit, the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy failed to ensure the elaboration of technical documentation. Now the reconstruction of the mill has been postponed till 1985-86.

The leaders of the Nizhniy Tagil Metallurgical Combine and (mainly its director, V. Udovenko) have taken practically no measures to ensure the steady work of the mill and have slackened their control over the quality of capital and current repairs. As a result of this, idle time at the mill has increased to 25 percent, as opposed to the planned 15.5 percent. And this growth stems from the increased time required for repairs and maintenance of equipment. Technological discipline is not always observed here. Rolled metal waste has doubled in the last few years. The ingot-cutting machine tool section works badly. The constant failure to meet production plans and targets has brought with it cadre turnover. Insufficient attention is paid to improving working conditions, organizing catering on evening and night shifts, and maintaining cleanliness in the shop and in service premises.

Yet given skillful utilization and a businesslike approach the mill can function. This can be seen from the following fact: In January, before the first capital repair this year, the monthly plan for rolled rims was practically fulfilled.

The Party Control Committee of the CPSU Central Committee recently examined the reasons behind the failures in deliveries of locomotive rims, which are so much needed by the railroad workers. Party proceedings have been instituted against Communists V. Udovenko, A. Kugushin, and S. Kolpakov.

SOVIET NEWSPAPERS CARRY AGRICULTURAL REVIEWS

IZVESTIYA 14 April

PM151436 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Apr 83 Morning Edition p 1

[O. Pavlov "Agricultural Review": "Keeping Abreast of April Work"]

[Text] I have just returned from a business trip to the Kazakh virgin lands. It is early spring there, as in many regions of the country. I have been there several times before, but I have never seen such high water. The Ishim -- the main river there -- was seething, the smaller rivers were turbulent, and in some places there were whole lakes in the fields.

Indeed, the reserves of moisture in the soil are much higher this year than last. This is not just because winter was snowy but because the snow was well retained. For instance, snow retention was carried out for the first time in Tselinograd Oblast on 3.7 million hectares.

"The condition of the soil is pleasing," N. Mirozov, first secretary of Tselinograd party Obkom, told me in conversation. "The mechanics, team leaders, and agronomists -- who are after all the immediate managers of the harvest -- are in a good mood. There is enough moisture to last until the spring crops tiller. We have first and second-grade seed. There is much more fertilizer for applying during the sowing. Since the CPSU Central Committee Politburo paid major attention to the readiness of K-700 tractors for the spring, things have appreciably improved with us in this regard too in comparison with past year...."

To this I can add that, visiting virgin land farms, I saw for myself that the people are in fighting spirit and, most importantly, that the weather's obvious generosity is not dampening anybody's ardor. For it is still more than a month to the sowing. You can't go into the fields at the moment. But everything is ready to begin the fieldwork -- primarily moisture retention -- at the very first opportunity. The opportunity must not be missed, for a long and ever difficult road to the harvest still lies ahead.

But if we are talking about Kazakhstan and all its 19 oblasts, the republic has enough good opportunities at its disposal to successfully carry out the sowing and subsequent fieldwork. Some 50 percent more mineral fertilizer has been obtained than in past years. The standard of readiness of K-700 tractors -- the main "virgin land workers" -- is higher than last spring. More organic fertilizer has been carted out and applied.

It is no accident that I began this review with a description of the situation in the Kazakh virgin lands. There are similar presowing conditions now in the other eastern regions of the country too. And there is a huge spring crop growing area there -- one-third of our entire grain area is beyond the Urals. And it is very much to be hoped that favorable opportunities for a good crop are not missed. For, apart from anything else, we obtain our best strong wheats from here.

And at the same time the sowing is gathering pace on the country's European territory. In the last week the weather has favored the farmers here. And the pace of work has increased. Here it is considered important in a number of places for the work to be carried out not in a standardized way, but taking account of the year's specific conditions.

In the south, in particular, great attention is being paid to the cultivation of corn. This is a substantial reserve for supplementing the grain balance. For this reason changes are being introduced into the crop structure.

Thus farmers of Odessa Oblast are allocating almost 250,000 hectares of land to corn, which is 50 percent more than last year. It is no accident that there has been this "restructuring." The winter crops suffered through severe drought and so farmers are counting on corn to supplement grain resources. Its cultivation has been entrusted to more than 1,000 mechanized detachments and links, most of whom are working on collective contract. Industrial methods are being used on 160,000 hectares.

Mechanics have carefully prepared for the spring sowing. The soil has been richly injected with organic and mineral fertilizers. But they are still not sowing there. They are about to begin....

While in neighboring Moldavia, (farming is, after all, a complex business) temperatures have been in the twenties recently and, so the specialists say, corn sowing has begun on a mass scale. Here 500,000 hectares, which is a very large area, have been allocated to corn. This crop is being cultivated on 350,000 hectares by industrial methods, which, according to local experts, will make it possible to obtain this year at least 50 quintals of grain per hectare on nonirrigated land and 80 quintals per hectare on irrigated land.

The field work front is expanding very rapidly and severely testing the farmers' readiness. For instance, when in the past was rice sown on the Don? Well, the time has arrived a month earlier than the perennial norm. The mechanized links of the Severnyy Sovkhoz, Salskiy Rayon, were the first to begin sowing.

And, finally, one more example of an early start to work and a good state of readiness for it. The farms of Novozybkovskiy, Krasnogorskiy, and other rayons in Bryansk Oblast have begun potato planting. Some 117,000 hectares there are given over to "second bread." Early varieties will occupy one-tenth of this area.

By Monday 11 April in the country spring crops had been sown on 23-4 million hectares, grain crops (excluding corn) on 13.9 million hectares, and pulse crops on 2.4 million hectares. Sugar beet occupied 1.7 million hectares, cotton 1.9 million hectares, and sunflowers 840,000 hectares. The sowing front is broad, stretching from the southern steppes to Vladimir, Novgorod, Gorkiy, Chuvashia, and...Magadan.

In Moldavia, the Ukraine, and the North Caucasus sturdy shoots of spring grain crops have appeared. Winter crops continue to be tended. They have been fed with mineral fertilizers on an area of 28.5 million hectares. Their condition has improved following recent precipitation.

In the April days which have elapsed much more has been sown in the country than last year and many other years. But this must in no way be seen as a race for high reporting indicators. It is what nature and the year's particular features demand. And these peculiarities also include farms attempting to introduce the team contract, industrial methods, and various innovations on a broad basis, all for the sake of the end result -- which is a good harvest.

PRAVDA 15 April

PM152301 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 83 First Edition p 1

["Agricultural review" prepared by specialists of the USSR Ministry of Agriculture: "Beet Growers Have Gone Out Into the Field"]

[Excerpts] Spring has called farmers into the field early this year. Following the Ukraine, Moldavia, the North Caucasus, and other southern regions, farms in central oblasts, the upper Volga Region, and Maritime Kray have begun sowing spring crops. Oats, barley, wheat, peas, and grass seeds are being sown. Planting of early potatoes has finished in Donetsk Oblast. Their cultivation has begun in Issyk-Kul and Bryansk Oblasts. The mass sowing of sunflowers is underway in the Kuban, and that of rice in Uzbekistan. Tashkent Oblast cottongrowers have laid a reliable basis for the new harvest, being the first in the republic to sow the valuable industrial crop in the fields. Cotton is also being sown in Turkmenia, Tajikistan, Kirgizia, Kazakhstan, and Azerbaijan. In all, according to the USSR Central Statistical Administration's figures, by 11 April kolkhozes and sovkhozes had sown seeds of spring crops over an area of 23.4 million hectares. This is considerably more than at the same date last year.

Not only the early spring is contributing to the high pace of the sowing campaign. A positive role has also been played by the better organization of fieldwork, which is being directed for the first time by the new organs of management — the agroindustrial associations. It is precisely the rayon agroindustrial associations that have made a considerable contribution to the fact that sowing, soil-cultivation equipment, and seeds have been better prepared on many farms this year and favorable conditions created for every machine operator to achieve high output. The new management organs were the initiators of the introduction of progressive forms of organizing and paying for labor on farms and are helping actively to assimilate collective contracting. And this has a positive effect on work results.

MILD WEATHER PROMOTES EARLY CROP GROWTH

PM151408 Moscow SELKSAYA ZHIZN in Russian 15 Apr 83 p 1

[Report by Agrometeorologist S. Malikova: "The Weather and the Crops"]

[Text] Warm weather persisted on the USSR's European territory at the beginning of April. In the second half of the 10-day period it became somewhat cooler, though temperatures remained 5-6 degrees higher than normal. Ground frosts down to minus 2 degrees were recorded on the greater part of the territory, reaching minus 6 and minus 9 degrees in the southeast of the Tatar ASSR, the Bashkir ASSR, and Orenburg Oblast. There were no frosts in southern Moldavia, the Ukraine, Krasnodar Kray, of eastern Belorussia.

There was rain everywhere. There were between 15 and 30 mm in Moldavia, the western half of the Ukraine, Belorussia, and the Central Chernozem, Central, Baltic, and Northwest Regions and 55 mm in places in Zhitomir, Vinnitsa, and Gomel Oblasts. There was less than 10 mm of rain over the rest of the country.

The warm weather helped to bring the soil rapidly to maturity. By 10 April the northern frontier of the mass spring grain crop sowing campaign ran along a line joining Kaliningrad, Sumy, Kursk, Vorenezh, and Volgograd. Selective sowing was under way in the northern oblasts of the Central Chernozem Region and the southern Central Region. This is 10-20 days earlier than the perennial average.

Stem growth was observed on winter crops in Moldavia, the Ukraine, the far southwest of Belorussia, the southern Central Chernozem Region, the North Caucasus, and the Volga Region (as far as Saratov). Grasses actively produced vegetation in the Ukraine and the North Caucasus and are 7-10 cm high. Barley shoots appeared.

The appearance of the first leaves and flower formation is being recorded on fruit trees. The apricot blossomed 10-14 days earlier than the perennial average in Moldavia and in the southern and southeastern Ukraine. At the end of the 10-day period the cherry, sweet cherry, early plum, and damson blossomed there are also on the Black Sea coast of Krasnodar Kray. Vines resumed vegetation some 2-3 weeks earlier than usual. Buds began to swell and the appearance of leaves on the vine is being recorded in the Kuban and in places in Dagestan ASSR.

Winter vrai crops, grasses, and fruit crops resumed vegetation in the Baltic, the North-West, the greater part of the Volga-Vyatka, the Urals, the northern Central, the Volga and the southern northern Regions (15-20 days earlier than the perennial average). Buds swelled on the apple, cherry, currant, and gooseberry.

It was mild in most farming areas of West Siberia and Kazakhstan. Then it became cooler, especially in Tomsk, Kemerovo and eastern Novosbirsk oblast. Here night frosts reached minus 15-20 degrees. In West Siberia there was between 1 and 10 mm of rain, with 10-20 mm in Kemerovo Oblast, western Tyumen Oblast and the east of Altay Kray.

In East Siberia it grew cooler and the average air temperatures for the 10-day period were lower than usual. A snow covering was observed almost everywhere here. It was 1-10 cm deep in the southern regions, 10-20 cm in the northern regions, and more than 50 cm in places. Warm weather persisted in the Far East farming areas. Precipitation fell in the form of snow, sleet, and rain. In most regions this amounted to 10-46 cm and up to 60 mm in places. By the end of the 10-day period the snow had disappeared from the fields almost everywhere. The ground had thawed to a depth of 10-20 cm.

In the republics of Central Asia it was warm in the first half of the 10-day period and in the second half the temperatures were somewhat lower. There was heavy rain. Agricultural crops sown, and pasture grasses are developing rapidly there. Winter grain crops were in the tillering and stem growth stage. Budding was recorded on alfalfa in the south of the territory. The conditions for sowing, seed germination, and shoot formation on cotton were favorable. On vine plantations leaves appeared and in places flowers formed. Damson, cherry, early plum, and apple are flowering.

RSFSR SPRING SOWING WORK PROGRESS REVIEWED

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[I. Nivin "Field Work Diary": "The Shock Force of Sowing Work"]

[Text] According to RSFSR Central Statistical Administration figures, 8,646,000 hectares of spring crops had been sown in all by 11 April, or 6.7 million hectares more than at the same date last year.

Some 346,000 hectares of sugarbeet had been sown.

According to local figures, 12 million hectares of winter crops have been treated with fertilizers.

Early spring is always capricious: the sun shines, then cold winds play their tricks, and sometimes even frosts pay a call. Such weather adds to the arable farmers' work worries -- they must not miss the optimum timing for going out into the fields and do everything as science and practice recommends.

Nor has this spring has been no exception to the rule. The many days of warm weather which set in during late March and early April led to a rapid drying out of the soil.

From the agrotechnical and organizational viewpoints, this is a very favorable factor. The early sowing of grain crops and the sudden beginning of winter grain growth not only create good preconditions for a big harvest but also make it possible to subsequently harvest the crop more quickly, to gain valuable time for the prompt preparation of the soil for winter crops, and to sow them within the optimum deadline.

And although it has become unexpectedly colder recently and rain has fallen in many places, the fieldwork front continues to expand rapidly. Its northern limit has now reached Vologda Oblast. The Kalinin and Smolensk Oblast flax growers and the Bryansk Oblast potato growers have gone out into the fields. According to recent reports, sowing work is now being done beyond the Urals. Arable farmers' first deed in Kurgan Oblast was to harrow the fall plowland and begin the presowing cultivation. This agricultural method is of prime significance in the Transurals where in spring the grain usually suffers from a lack of moisture in the soil.

Farms in the North Caucasus and Central-Chernozem Regions which have completed the sowing of early grain crops and cereals and the resowing and supplementary sowing of winter crop areas within a very tight schedule, and are laying the foundations for a big crop of sugar beet, sunflowers, corn, and vegetables. The valuable experience accumulated by the Kuban's beet growers during the present sowing work merits special attention. Sugar beet has been planted here, as planned, on 207,000 hectares with half the area being cultivated according to industrial methods. Some 70,000 hectares of sugar beet have been sown using mono-germ seeds. Thanks to this, manual labor will be completely eliminated at beet plantations.

The kray's corn growers have also put forward a praiseworthy initiative. In view of the fact that some winter grain did not sprout in fall, it was decided to plant the vacant fields with corn for grain. In that way this crop will be sown on 370,000 hectares, or 120,000 hectares more than planned. It was decided to apply the industrial method of cultivating this crop, tried and tested in past years, on 330,000 hectares. The sowing of corn in the kray has begun.

A striking feature of the present sowing work is the widespread use by machine operators of the collective contract. In Belgorod Oblast, for example, 700 such links have begun cultivating various crops on nearly 1 million hectares. This is almost two-thirds of all the sown area. The introduction of the progressive method of labor organization has already borne fruit -- Belgorod Oblast's farms completed the sowing of early grain crops in 4 days -- an unprecedentedly short time. And the quality of the fieldwork has been excellent. Links and teams which have transferred to the contract method are the main shock force everywhere. Thus at the Radishchev Sovkhoz in Saratov Oblast, the team headed by USSR state prize winner V.I. Belikov, which has transferred to the contract method, has set about irrigation work without waiting for instructions. The machine operators have decided to carry out 5 mowings of perennial grasses during the season and to obtain 80 quintals of fodder units from each hectare.

The RSFSR'S kolkhozes and sovkhozes are assigning a prominent place to hulled crops in this year's sowing structure. The emphasis is on increasing yields rather than sown areas. In Saratov Oblast, for example, major millet and buckwheat producing farms have allocated 52,000 hectares of their best lands to those crops including 22,000 hectares of irrigated land.

At the same time, serious shortcomings have appeared in the preparation for and performance of spring fieldwork in a number of oblasts. At present, over 11,000 high-powered K-700 and K-701 tractors are standing idle on farms and in repair shops because of a spare shortage. Rural machine operators are also being let down by suppliers such as the Altay Motor Plant (the plant's plan for the supply of units for A-41 engines was only 73 percent fulfilled in the first quarter), the Barnaul Plant (which failed to supplied 216,000 stuffing boxes), and the Krasnoyarsk Industrial Rubber Goods Plant (which undersupplied 56,000 engine gaskets).

Special alarm is being caused by the fact that now, when sowing work is gathering momentum, many farms still have not brought grain crop seeds up to the required condition. Whereas across the RSFSR as a whole one-third of the sowing materials are in first class condition, Gorkiy Oblast has only 8.5 percent of such seeds, Chita Oblast has 7.2 percent, Irkutsk Oblast has 6.9 percent while Novgorod Oblast, where the sowing of early grain crops is just about to begin, has only 4.2 percent. The insufficient quantity of high-class seeds is a direct indictment of agronomists.

MARY OBKOM PLENUM HELD, FUTURE TASKS OUTLINED

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[Text] Mary -- The tasks of the oblast's party organizations for implementing the social and economic policy of the party in light of the propositions in the report of Comrade Andropov, general asecretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the 60th anniversary of the USSR were discussed at the obkom plenum held here. The Obkom First Secretary, Akgayev, presented a report.

It was noted that during the past 2 years of the 11th 5-Year Plan period the oblast carried out definite work for realizing the economic tasks deduced from the 26th CPSU Congress and the May and November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenums. The production of the basic kinds of industrial and agricultural products was increased.

At the same time, the reporters and speakers stressed the necessity of strengthening the labor and production discipline, the more expanded use of reserves for the growth of industrial products and increasing the harvestibility of cotton and other agricultural crops, which will in turn allow for the successful verification of the Food Program. Corresponding resolutions were made on questions discussed.